C

C, c /siː/ **C's, c's** *or* **Cs, cs** **1** the third letter of the English alphabet **2** the ROMAN NUMERAL (=number) for 100 **3** a mark given to a student's work to show that it is of average standard —see also GRADE[1] (3)

c *written abbrev. for* **1** also **ca**— CIRCA (=about): *born c 1830* **2** CUBIC **3** CENTIMETRE(*s*) **4** (in a small circle) COPYRIGHT

C[1] **1** a note in Western music; the musical KEY[1] (4) based on this note **2** a mark given to a student's work, showing the third level of quality (in US schools, average work): *a C student*

C[2] *written abbrev. for:* CELSIUS (=CENTIGRADE): *Water boils at 100°C.*

C2 /ˌsiː ˈtuː/ *n BrE tech* a WORKING CLASS person; used by companies, political parties, etc. when trying to persuade working class people to buy their products, vote for them, etc.: *trying to capture the C2 vote*

C4 *written abbrev. for* CHANNEL 4

CA *written abbrev. for* CALIFORNIA

CAA /ˌsiː eɪ ˈeɪ/ [*the*] Civil Aviation Authority; an organization which is in charge of aircraft companies and air ROUTES in Britain

cab /kæb/ *n* **1** a taxi: *Shall we walk or take a cab|go by cab?* —see picture at TAXI **2** the part of a bus, railway engine, etc., in which the driver sits or stands **3** (in former times) a horse-drawn carriage for hire

CAB /ˌsiː eɪ ˈbiː/ *n abbrev. for:* CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU

ca·bal /kəˈbæl/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] *derog* a small group of people who make secret plans for (esp. political) action

ca·ba·la cabbala, cabbalah /kəˈbɑːlə/ also **kabala, kabbala, kabbalah** *n* **1** [U] a system of Jewish belief based on getting hidden meanings from the Old Testament and other writings, e.g. to see into the future **2** [C] an old, mysterious, or secret art or subject —**cabalism** /ˈkæbəlɪzəm/ *n* [U] —**cabalistic** /ˌkæbəˈlɪstɪk◂/ *adj*

cab·a·ret /ˈkæbəreɪ‖ˌkæbəˈreɪ/ *n* [C;U] (a) performance of popular music and dancing while guests in a restaurant have a meal, usu. at night —see picture at Liza MINELLI

cab·bage /ˈkæbɪdʒ/ *n* **1** [C;U] a large round vegetable with thick green leaves used (usu. cooked) as food —compare LETTUCE, and see picture at VEGETABLE **2** [C] *BrE infml* **a** *derog* an inactive person who takes no interest in anything **b vegetable** *AmE* someone who has lost the ability to think, move, etc. as a result of illness, brain damage, etc.

Cabbage Patch doll /ˈ·· · ˌ·/ *n tdmk* a type of doll which looks like a fat child. Cabbage Patch dolls are all slightly different from one another.

cab·by , cab·bie /ˈkæbi/ also **cab·driv·er** /ˈkæbˌdraɪvəʳ/ *esp. AmE— n infml* a taxi driver. In Britain, cabbies, esp. **London cabbies**, are famous for talking a lot to their passengers and expressing strong opinions, esp. about politics.

ca·ber /ˈkeɪbəʳ/ *n* a long heavy wooden pole used in Scotland in a sports competition (**tossing the caber**) in which the pole is thrown into the air as a test of strength

Cab·er·net Sau·vi·gnon /ˌkæbəneɪ səʊviːnˈjɒn ‖ ˌkæbərneɪ səʊviːnˈjəʊn/ *n* [U] **1** a type of GRAPE grown for wine **2** a popular red wine produced in various parts of the world

cab·in /ˈkæbɨn/ *n* **1** a room on a ship usu. used for sleeping **2** the small enclosed space at the front of an aircraft in which the pilot sits **3** a small roughly built usu. wooden house: *They lived in a little log cabin in the mountains.*

cabin boy /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a boy who is a servant on a ship

cabin class /ˈ·· ·/ *n* [U] (on a ship) the travelling conditions which are better and dearer than TOURIST CLASS but worse and cheaper than FIRST CLASS: *I always travel cabin class.| a cabin-class ticket*

cabin cruis·er /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a large motor boat with one or more cabins

cab·i·net /ˈkæbɨnɨt/ *n* **1** a piece of furniture, with shelves and drawers or doors, used for storing or showing things: *a filing cabinet | a medicine cabinet | I keep my collection of old china in the cabinet.* —compare CUPBOARD **2** [+*sing./pl. v*] (*often cap.*) (in various countries) the most important ministers of the government, who meet as a group to make decisions or to advise the head of the government: *The cabinet meets|meet tomorrow to discuss this problem. | This will be discussed in cabinet* (=in a meeting of the cabinet) *next week.*

►CULTURAL NOTE In Britain the cabinet has about 20 members who are chosen by the Prime Minister. In the US the members of the cabinet are chosen by the President, but they are not chosen from among the members of the government.◄

cabinet-mak·er /ˈ··· ˌ··/ *n* a maker or repairer of fine furniture

Cabinet Min·is·ter /ˌ··· ˈ···/ *n* a government minister who is a member of the Cabinet

Cabinet re·shuf·fle /ˌ··· ·ˈ··/ *n* a change in the members of the British Cabinet, decided by the Prime Minister, in which some members are given different jobs, some members lose their job, and new members are brought in

cabin fe·ver /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [U] *AmE* a condition that results from one being forced to spend too much time indoors, esp. in winter because of bad weather. Sufferers become very bad-tempered and may behave strangely.

ca·ble[1] /ˈkeɪbəl/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a length of) thick strong usu. metal rope used on ships, to support bridges, etc. **2** [C] a set of wires which carry telephone messages, television signals, etc.: *an underwater telephone cable | a cable connecting a printer to a computer* **3** [C] also **ca·ble·gram** /-ˌgræm/ *fml*— a TELEGRAM **4** [U] also **cable stitch** /ˈ·· ·/— a twisted and knotted pattern of thread, used in knitting (KNIT) **5** [U] CABLE TELEVISION

cable[2] *v* [I;T] to send (something) or tell (someone) by TELEGRAM: *We cabled the news to London.* [+*obj(i)+obj(d)*] *She cabled him some money.*

Cable and Wire·less /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ *n* a former British TELECOMMUNICATIONS company now owned by Mercury Communications

cable car /ˈ·· ·/ *n* **1** a vehicle which is supported in the air and pulled by a continuous cable, used for carrying people to the tops of mountains or other steep slopes **2** a vehicle used in cities, esp. in San Francisco, California, which is pulled by a continuously moving underground cable

cable rail·way /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a railway along which vehicles are pulled by a continuous cable driven by a motor, used esp. where there are very steep slopes

cable tel·e·vi·sion /ˌ·· ˈ····, ˌ·· ··ˈ··/ also **cable TV** /ˌ·· ·ˈ·/, **cable**— *n* [U] a system of broadcasting television by cable, usu. paid for by the user, and giving the user a choice of more CHANNELS to watch than the usual channels which every television receives. It is also used in areas where the television picture would otherwise not be very good. In the US; different cable television companies operate in different areas, sometimes offering a large number of different channels for a monthly charge. —compare SATELLITE TELEVISION

ca·boo·dle /kəˈbuːdl/ *n* **the whole caboodle** also **kit and caboodle** *esp. AmE sl* the whole lot; everything

ca·boose /kəˈbuːs/ *n AmE for* GUARD'S VAN

Cab·ot /ˈkæbət/, **John** (died 1498) an Italian EXPLORER who reached the coast of N America in 1497

cab rank /ˈ· ·/ also **cabstand** *n for* TAXI RANK

Ca·bri·ni /kæˈbriːni/, **Mother Fran·ces Xa·vi·er** /ˈfrɑːnsɨs ˈzeɪviəʳ‖ˈfræn-/ (1850–1909) an Italian-born American NUN who became the first American to be named a SAINT (=holy person) by the Catholic Church. Many churches and other institutions are named after her.

cab·ri·o·let /ˈkæbriəleɪ‖ˌkæbriəˈleɪ/ *n* a CONVERTIBLE 2

cab·stand /ˈkæbstænd/ *n esp. AmE for* TAXI RANK

ca·cao /kəˈkaʊ/ *n* [U] (the tropical tree which produces) a seed from which COCOA and chocolate are made

cac·cia·to·re /ˌkætʃəˈtɔːri‖ˌkɑːtʃ-/ *adj* [after *n*] *AmE* (of meat) cooked with TOMATOES, MUSHROOMS, and HERBS: *chicken cacciatore*

cache /kæʃ/ *n* [(**of**)] a secret store of things, or the place where they are hidden: *Police discovered a cache of weapons in the terrorists' hide-out.*

cach·et /ˈkæʃeɪ‖kæˈʃeɪ/ *n* [U] something that brings respect; PRESTIGE: *He gets a lot of cachet from having such a famous sister.*

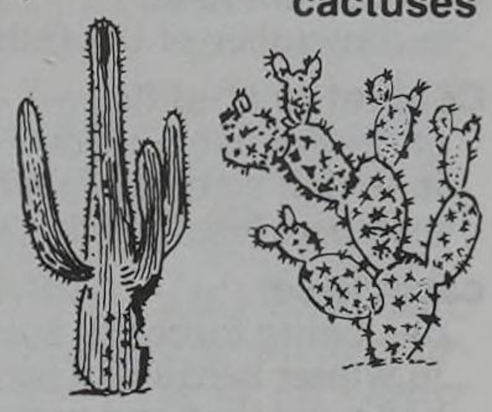
cack-hand·ed /ˌkæk ˈhændɨd◂/ *adj BrE infml* awkward and unskilful; CLUMSY

cack·le[1] /ˈkækəl/ *v* [I] **1** to make the noise a hen makes, esp. after laying an egg **2** to laugh or talk unpleasantly with henlike sounds: *old ladies cackling over the latest scandal* —**-ler** *n*

cackle[2] *n* **1** the sound of cackling, esp. a short high laugh: *cackles of amusement* **2 cut the cackle** *BrE sl* to stop talking when important action needs to be taken

ca·coph·o·ny /kəˈkɒfəni‖kəˈkɑː-/ *n* [S] an unpleasant mixture of loud sounds —**-nous** *adj*

cactuses



cac·tus /ˈkæktəs/ *n* **-tuses** *or* **-ti** /taɪ/ a desert plant protected by sharp points (PRICKLES), with thick fleshy stems and leaves

cad /kæd/ *n old-fash derog* a man who behaves dishonourably: *You cheated, you cad!* —**~dish** *adj*

CAD /ˌsiː eɪ ˈdiː, kæd/ *abbrev. for* COMPUTER-AIDED DESIGN

ca·dav·er /kəˈdævəʳ, kəˈdeɪ-‖kəˈdæ-/ *n esp. med* a dead human body

ca·dav·er·ous /kəˈdævərəs/ *n fml* looking like a dead body; very pale; thin and unhealthy: *his hollow cadaverous cheeks*

Cad·bu·ry /ˈkædbəri/ *n tdmk* [U] a British company which makes chocolate: *Cadbury's Dairy Milk chocolate*

CAD/CAM /ˈkædkæm/ *n* [U] computer-aided design and manufacture; the use of computers to plan and make industrial products

cad·die also **caddy** /ˈkædi/ *n* a person who carries GOLF CLUBS for someone else who is playing —see picture at GOLF —**caddie** *v* [I (**for**)]

cad·dy /ˈkædi/ *n* **1** a TEA CADDY **2** caddie

ca·dence /ˈkeɪdəns/ *n* **1 a** a regular beat of sound; RHYTHM **b** a set of CHORDS at the end of a phrase of music **2** the rise and fall of the human voice, esp. in reading poetry

ca·den·za /kəˈdenzə/ *n tech* a part of a piece of music, esp. a CONCERTO, that is very decorative and is played by a single musician

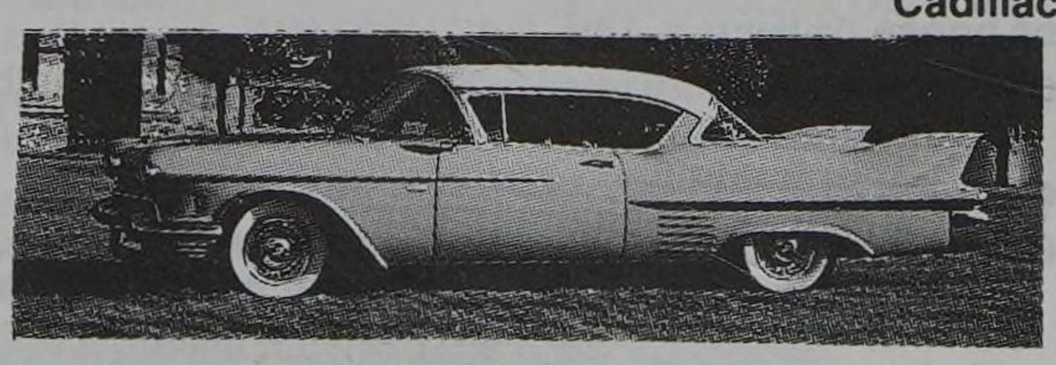
Cad·er Id·ris /ˌkædər ˈɪdrɪs‖ˌkɑː-/ a mountain RIDGE in W Wales

ca·det /kəˈdet/ *n* **1** a person being trained to become an officer in one of the armed forces or the police **2** a member of a cadet corps

cadet corps /ˌ·ˈ· ·/ *n* **cadet corps** [C+*sing./pl. v*] an organization which gives simple military training to pupils in some British schools

cadge /kædʒ/ *v* [I;T (**from, off, for**)] *infml derog* to get or try to get (something) by asking, esp. taking advantage of other people's generosity: *He's always cadging cigarettes (from/off me).* | *a dog cadging for scraps* —**cadger** *n*

Cadillac



Cad·il·lac /ˈkædɪlæk, -dəl-/ *n tdmk* a large American car, generally thought of as a quality car for richer people

cad·mi·um /ˈkædmiəm/ *n* [U] a soft bluish white metal that is a simple substance (ELEMENT)

ca·dre /ˈkɑːdəʳ, -drə, ˈkeɪdəʳ‖ˈkædri, ˈkɑːdrə/ *n* **1** [+*sing./pl. v*] an inner group of highly trained and active people in a political party or military force **2** a member of such a group

Caer·nar·von , Caernarfon /kəˈnɑːvən‖kɑːrˈnɑːr-/ a small holiday town on the coast of NW Wales. The INVESTITURE of Prince Charles took place at Caernarvon castle in 1969.

Caer·phil·ly /kəˈfɪli‖kɑːr-/ *n* [U] a type of white, not strong-tasting cheese originally made in Caerphilly, S Wales

Cae·sar /ˈsiːzəʳ/, **Ju·li·us** /ˈdʒuːliəs/ (100–44 BC) a Roman political leader, GENERAL, and historian. Most people think of Julius Caesar as a DICTATOR who was killed by his friend Brutus and whose story is told in Shakespeare's play *Julius Caesar*. —see also JULIUS CAESAR

cae·sar·e·an , ce-, -ian /sɨˈzeəriən/ also **caesarean sec·tion** /·ˌ··· ˈ··/, **C-section** *fml*— *n* an operation in which a woman's body is cut open to allow a baby to be taken out, when an ordinary birth may be difficult: *Our first baby was born by caesarean.*

Caesar sal·ad /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a cold dish made with LETTUCE and cooked eggs

cae·su·ra /sɪˈzjʊərə‖sɪˈʒʊərə, sɪˈzʊərə/ *n* a pause in the middle of a line of poetry

caf·e , café /ˈkæfeɪ‖kæˈfeɪ, kə-/ *n* a small restaurant where light meals and drinks (in Britain only nonalcoholic drinks) are served. Cafes are used by people looking for a cheap meal or drink or somewhere to pass some time —compare RESTAURANT, COFFEE SHOP

caf·e·te·ri·a /ˌkæfɨˈtɪəriə/ *n* a restaurant where people collect their own food and drink and carry it to the tables, often in a shop, factory, college, etc. —compare CANTEEN

caf·e·tiere /ˌkæfəˈtjeəʳ/ *n* a special pot for making coffee. It has a metal FILTER which pushes the coffee GROUNDS to the bottom of the pot

caf·feine /ˈkæfiːn‖kæˈfiːn/ *n* [U] a drug found in coffee and tea, which acts as a STIMULANT (=something which makes people feel more active). Too much caffeine is now generally considered to be a bad thing and there has been an increase in caffeine-free drinks.

caf·tan , kaftan /ˈkæftæn‖kæfˈtæn/ *n* a long loose garment, usu. of cotton or silk, worn in the Near and Middle East. Caftans were very popular in Britain in the 1960s and 70s, esp. with HIPPIES.

cage[1] /keɪdʒ/ *n* **1** an enclosure made of wires or bars in which animals or birds are kept or carried: *a bird cage* | *a tiger in its cage at the zoo* **2** an apparatus for raising and lowering people and equipment in a mine

cage[2] *v* [T] to put into a cage: *caged birds* | (fig.) *Mothers of young children often feel* **caged in** *staying at home all day.*

cag·ey /ˈkeɪdʒi/ *adj infml* unwilling to talk freely or provide information; WARY: *She's very cagey about her past life.* —**-ily** *adv* —**-iness** *n* [U]

Cag·ney /ˈkægni/, **James** (1904–86) an American film actor, best known for playing GANGSTERS and for the line "You dirty rat", which he is supposed to have said in one of his films

ca·goule /kəˈguːl/ *n BrE* a long light waterproof coat with a protective cover for the head, like a thin ANORAK

ca·hoots /kəˈhuːts/ *n* **in cahoots (with)** *sl* in partnership (with), usu. for a dishonest purpose: *The bank robbers and the police were in cahoots.* | *The bank robbers were in cahoots with the police.*

Cain /keɪn/ in the Bible, the eldest son of Adam and Eve, who killed his brother Abel out of jealousy — see also **raise Cain** (RAISE[1] (14))

Caine /keɪn/, **Sir Mi·chael** /ˈmaɪkəl/ (1933–) an English film actor well-known internationally and noted for his COCKNEY (=from London) ACCENT

ca·ique /kɑːˈiːk/ *n* a small boat used in the E Mediterranean

cairn /keən‖keərn/ *n* a pile of stones set up, esp. on mountain tops, to mark a place or remind people of someone or something

Cairn·gorms /ˈkeəngɔːmz‖ˈkeərngɔːrmz/ [*the* + P] a group of mountains in Scotland popular for walking, climbing, and skiing (SKI 2)

Cairns /keənz‖keərnz/ a city and port on the NE coast of Australia in the state of Queensland

Cai·ro /ˈkaɪərəʊ/ the capital city of Egypt, on the River Nile in the N of the country. Cairo is an important centre of business and government with many MUSEUMS, universities, and historic buildings. —see picture at DELTA

cais·son /ˈkeɪsən, kəˈsuːn‖ˈkeɪsɑːn, -sən/ *n* **1** also **coffer-dam, coffer**– a large box filled with air, which allows people to work under water, e.g. when building bridges **2** a large box, usu. on two wheels, for carrying AMMUNITION

Caith·ness /ˈkeɪθnes/ a former COUNTY in NE Scotland, now part of Highland REGION

ca·jole /kəˈdʒəʊl/ *v* [I;T **(into, out of)**] to persuade by praise or false promises; COAX: *His technique is to cajole his staff rather than threaten them.* | *She's always cajoling people into doing things for her.*

Ca·jun /ˈkeɪdʒən/ *n* a member of the people living in S Louisiana, US, who are descended from French-Canadians. Cajuns have their own language, which is related to French, and they are also known for their music and their cooking, which is SPICY and uses esp. seafood. – **Cajun** *adj* : *Cajun music*/food –see also GUMBO and compare SOUL FOOD

cake[1] /keɪk/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a piece of) a soft food made by baking a sweet mixture of flour, eggs, sugar, etc.: *to bake a cake* | *a chocolate cake* | *a birthday cake* | *Would you like some cake/a slice of cake?* –compare BISCUIT; see also CHRISTMAS CAKE, CUP CAKE, MADEIRA CAKE **2** [C] (*often in comb.*) a flat shaped piece of something, esp. food: *a potato cake* | *a fishcake* | *a cake of soap* **3** [*the*+S] the total amount, esp. of money or goods, that is to be shared among everyone: *The people of the Third World want a bigger slice of the cake.* **4 have one's cake and eat it (too)** *infml* to have the advantages of something without the disadvantages that go with it: *You spend all your money on beer and then complain about being poor, but you can't have your cake and eat it, you know.* –see also PIECE OF CAKE **5 let them eat cake** a phrase which is believed to have been said by Marie Antoinette just before the French Revolution, when told that the poor people were hungry because they had no bread **6 take the cake** *AmE infml* to be more foolish or silly than anything else: *I've heard some pretty dumb ideas, but that takes the cake.*

cake[2] *v* **1** [T **(with)**] to cover thickly: *Her shoes were caked with mud.* **2** [I] to form a hard mass when dry: *Cheap lipstick always cakes.*

cake fork /ˈ· ·/ *n* a fork with one PRONG wider than the others and shaped like a small knife

cake tin /ˈ· ·/ *BrE* ‖ **cake pan** *AmE n* a metal container for holding a cake while it is being baked

cal·a·bash /ˈkæləbæʃ/ *n* (a tropical American tree with) a large hard fruit whose shell can be dried and used as a bowl

cal·a·boose /ˌkæləˈbuːs‖ˈkæləbuːs/ *n AmE rare* a small prison

cal·a·brese /ˈkæləbriːs/ *n BrE* BROCCOLI

Cal·ais /ˈkæleɪ‖kæˈleɪ/ an industrial city and port in NW France, used esp. as a port for ferries (FERRY) from Dover, England

cal·a·mine lo·tion /ˌkæləmaɪn ˈləʊʃən/ *n* [U] a pink liquid used esp. to cool skin that has been burnt by the sun and to reduce pain or itching (ITCH)

ca·lam·i·ty /kəˈlæmɨti/ *n* a sudden terrible event causing great loss and suffering: *It would be a calamity for these people if the rains failed yet again.* –**tous** *adj* : *a calamitous flood* –**tously** *adv*

Calamity Jane /ˌ··· ˈ·/ (about 1852–1903) an American from the time of the WILD WEST, remembered for her skill in shooting guns and her adventures as a rider for the PONY EXPRESS –see also Wild Bill HICKOK

cal·ci·fy /ˈkælsɨfaɪ/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) become hard by the addition of LIME

cal·ci·um /ˈkælsiəm/ *n* [U] a silver-white metal that is a simple substance (ELEMENT) and is found in bones, teeth, and chalk

cal·cu·late /ˈkælkjʊleɪt/ *v* [I;T] **1** to find out or make a firm guess about (esp. an amount), esp. by using numbers: *They use a computer to calculate the cost of wages as a percentage of the company's income.* | *The government has to calculate the likely effects on revenues of a big drop in the oil price.* [+(*that*)] *The experts calculate that the market for these computers will expand by 200% in the next three years.* [+*wh*-] *The scientists calculated when the spacecraft would reach the moon.* –see also INCALCULABLE **2 be calculated to (do something)** to be planned with the intention of (producing a particular result): *The new regulations are deliberately calculated to make cheating impossible.* | *The new system is hardly calculated to* (=is unlikely to) *make life easier!*

calculate on sthg. *phr v* [T] to depend on (something happening): [+*obj*/*v-ing*] *We calculated on an early start/on making an early start.* [+*obj*+*v-ing*] *Don't calculate on him agreeing with you.*

cal·cu·lat·ed /ˈkælkjʊleɪtɨd/ *adj* intentionally planned to gain a particular result: *a calculated threat* | *I took a calculated risk when I bought those shares.* –see also CALCULATE (2) – ~**ly** *adv*

cal·cu·lat·ing /ˈkælkjʊleɪtɪŋ/ *adj usu. derog* making careful plans with the intention of bringing advantage to oneself, without considering the effects on other people: *a cold, calculating criminal*

cal·cu·la·tion /ˌkælkjʊˈleɪʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U] the act or result of calculating: *These calculations are based on the latest statistics.* **2** [U] care in planning, esp. for one's own advantage: *He lied with cold calculation.*

cal·cu·la·tor /ˈkælkjʊleɪtəʳ/ *n* a small machine which can perform calculations, such as adding and multiplying: *a pocket calculator* –see picture at MATHEMATICS

cal·cu·lus /ˈkælkjʊləs/ *n* **-li** /laɪ/ *or* **-luses** **1** [U] (in MATHEMATICS) a system for making calculations about quantities which are continually changing, such as the speed of a falling stone or the slope of a curved line –see also DIFFERENTIAL CALCULUS, INTEGRAL CALCULUS **2** [C] *med* a stone of chalky matter which sometimes forms in the body

Cal·cut·ta /kælˈkʌtə/ a city and port in east India on the Hooghly River and capital of West Bengal state. Calcutta is often thought of as a place with many very poor people. –see also BLACK HOLE OF CALCUTTA

Cal·der /ˈkɔːldəʳ/, **Al·ex·an·der** /ˌælɪgˈzɑːndəʳ‖-ˈzæn-/ (1898–1976) an American SCULPTOR best known for his large outdoor works of art found in many cities, and his large MOBILES

cal·dron /ˈkɔːldrən/ *n AmE for* CAULDRON

Cal·e·do·ni·a /ˌkælɨˈdəʊniə/ *poet* originally the Roman name for northern Britain, now a name for Scotland, used mainly in names of companies –**Caledonian** /ˌkælɨˈdəʊniən◂/ *adj*

Caledonian Ca·nal /ˌ····· ·ˈ·/ [*the*] an artificial stretch of water in Scotland joining the Atlantic with the North Sea through a line of LOCHS (=lakes)

cal·en·dar /ˈkælɨndəʳ/ *n* **1** a printed table that lists the days, weeks, and months of the year: *a wall/desk calendar* | *According to the calendar my birthday falls on a Sunday this year.* | *a calendar watch* (=one which shows the date) **2** a system by which the year is divided into parts, and its beginning, end, and total length are fixed –see also GREGORIAN CALENDAR, HEGIRA CALENDAR **3** a list of important events in the year of a particular organization: *The presidential elections are the highlight of next year's political calendar.* | *According to the university calendar your examinations will be in June.* **4** *AmE for* DIARY (2)

calendar month /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* a month measured according to the CALENDAR (2), esp. one of the 12 months of the modern European system: *From January 1st to February 1st is one calendar month.* –compare LUNAR MONTH

calendar year /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* a YEAR (2)

cal·en·der /ˈkælɨndəʳ/ *n tech* a machine for rolling, pressing, and smoothing paper, cloth, etc.

calf[1] /kɑːf‖kæf/ *n* **calves** /kɑːvz‖kævz/ **1** [C] the young of the cow or of some other large animals such as the elephant –see MEAT (USAGE) **2** [U] calfskin: *a book bound in calf* **3 in calf** (of a cow) PREGNANT –see also **kill the fatted calf** (KILL[1] (5))

calf[2] *n* **calves** the fleshy back part of the human leg between the knee and the ankle

calf love /ˈ· ·/ *n* [U] PUPPY LOVE

calf·skin /ˈkɑːfˌskɪn‖ˈkæf-/ *n* [U] leather made from the skin of the calf: *calfskin boots*

Cal·gar·y /ˈkælgəri/ a city in S Alberta, Canada, on the Bow

and Elbow rivers, which is an important centre for the oil and gas industries

Cal·i·ban /ˈkælɨbæn/ a character in Shakespeare's play *The Tempest*, a half-human slave

cal·i·brate /ˈkælɨbreɪt/ *v* [T] to mark degrees and dividing points on (the scale of a measuring instrument)

cal·i·bra·tion /ˌkælɨˈbreɪʃən/ *n* a set of degrees or measurement marks

cal·i·bre also **-ber** *AmE* /ˈkælɨbəʳ/ *n* **1** [S;U] the level of quality, excellence, or ability of something or someone: *This work is of (a) very high calibre.* **2** [C] **a** the inside size (DIAMETER) of a tube or gun **b** the size of a bullet

cal·i·co[1] /ˈkælɪkəʊ/ *n* [U] a heavy cotton cloth

calico[2] *adj AmE* (of a cat or other animal) having three colours, usu. in spots of black and reddish-brown on white

Cal·i·for·ni·a /ˌkælɨˈfɔːniə‖-ˈfɔːrnjə/ *written abbrev.* **CA** a state in the SW of the US, whose major cities include Los Angeles and San Francisco. Disneyland and Hollywood are both in California. California is usu. thought of as a sunny place where young, healthy-looking people live and where new and unusual ideas are first put into practice – see colour map on pages 1374-5

Ca·lig·u·la /kəˈlɪgjʊlə/ (AD 12–41) a Roman EMPEROR famous for being mad and cruel

cal·i·pers /ˈkælɨpəz‖-ərz/ *n* [P] *AmE for* CALLIPERS

ca·liph , khalif /ˈkeɪlɨf/ *n* (*often cap.*) a Muslim ruler: *the caliph of Baghdad*

ca·li·phate , khalifate /ˈkeɪlɨfeɪt/ *n* the country or period of rule of a caliph

cal·is·then·ics /ˌkælɨsˈθenɪks/ *n AmE* CALLISTHENICS

calk /kɔːk/ *v* [T] to CAULK

call[1] /kɔːl/ *v* **1** [I;T (OUT)] to speak or say in a loud clear voice; shout: *The teacher called (out) the names of everyone in the class.* | *"Stop," he called out.* | *The frightened child called (out) for help.* | *The fishermen called to the men on the shore.* | *I've been calling for five minutes; why don't they come?* **2** [T] to ask or order (someone) to come by speaking loudly, sending an order or message, etc.; SUMMON: *Mother is calling me.* | *He called me over to his desk.* | *She has been called to give evidence to the inquiry.* | *The minister called the union leaders to a meeting.* | *Call a doctor!* | *If you don't get out I'll call the police.* | *I must go now –* **duty calls!** **3** [I;T] to (try to) speak to by telephone: *I called him this morning but he was out.* | *The office called to find out where you were.* –see TELEPHONE (USAGE) **4** [I (**at, in, on, for**)] *esp. BrE* **a** to make a short visit to someone: *Let's call (in) on John for ten minutes.* | *You were out when we called.* | *He called to collect the money.* | *Do you think we should call at Bob's while we're in London?* **b** (esp. of people selling things) to make regular visits: *The milkman calls every day.* **5** [T] to cause to happen by making an official declaration: *The prime minister called an election.* | *The union leaders are calling a strike.* **6** [T+*obj*+*n*] to name: *We'll call the baby Jean.* | *She's called Karina.* | *What do you call your dog?* (=what is its name?) **7** [T+*obj*+*n*/*adj*] to say or consider that (someone or something) is (something): *She called me stupid.* | *Are you calling me a liar?* | *I don't call Russian a hard language.* | *How can you still call yourself my friend after what you did?* | *Did you hear what he called me?* | *I don't know what I owe you, but let's call it £5.* | *I paid for the meal and you paid for the tickets, so let's* **call it quits.** (=agree that we don't owe each other anything) **8** [T] to waken (someone): *Please call me at 7 o'clock.* **9** [I (**to**);T] (of an animal) to make the usual cry (to another animal): *The birds are calling (each other).* **10** [I;T] (in card games) **a** *BrE* to BID[1] (2): *Who called last?* | *What did she call?* **b** to say what will be TRUMPS[2] **c** to demand to see other players' cards (in POKER) **11 call a spade a spade** *infml* to speak the plain truth without being delicate or sensitive **12 call collect** *AmE*‖**reverse the charges** *BrE*– to make a telephone call to be paid for by the person who receives it **13 call it a day** *infml* to stop work or an activity: *It's getting pretty late – let's call it a day.* **14 call one's shot** *AmE sl* to state exactly what one intends to do **15 call someone's bluff** to tell someone who claims to be or know something, or who is threatening to do something, to prove his/her claims or to do what he/she threatens to do: *When he threatened to dismiss me I called his bluff.* **16 call someone to the colors** *AmE lit* to ask someone to serve in the armed forces, esp. during a war **17 call someone to order** to order someone to obey the rules of a formal meeting: *The chairman called the hecklers to order*/*called the meeting to order.* **18 call something into question** to raise doubts about something: *I'm afraid that this incident calls into question his suitability for the job.* **19 call the tune**/**shots** *infml* to be in a position to give orders, decide what will happen, etc. **20 call to mind** to remember: *I'm sure I know that man, although I can't call to mind where I've met him.* –see also SO-CALLED **21 don't call** ˈ**us, we'll call** ˈ**you** a phrase used humorously to someone after they have just given a poor performance of acting or singing (from the phrase that is believed to be used by a DIRECTOR at the end of an unsuccessful AUDITION)

call back *phr v* **1** [I] *BrE* to pay another visit: *The salesman will call back later.* **2** [I;T (=**call** sbdy. **back**)] to return a telephone call: *Will you call me back later?* – see also CALL[1] (3); see TELEPHONE (USAGE)

call by *phr v* [I] *infml BrE* to visit when passing: *I'll call by at the shop on my way home.*

call sbdy./sthg. ↔ **down** *phr v* [T] **1** [(**on**)] to ask for something to come down (as if) from heaven; INVOKE: *The priest called down God's anger on the people.* **2** *AmE infml* to speak to angrily; REPRIMAND: *He called me down for the way I spoke to the teacher.*

call for sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** to demand: *to call for the waiter*/*the bill* | *The opposition have called for an immediate inquiry into the behaviour of the police.* **2** to need or deserve: *That remark was not called for.* (=was nasty or unfair) | *This sort of work calls for a lot of patience.* | *You're getting married? This calls for a celebration!* –see also UNCALLED-FOR **3** *BrE* to go and get (someone) from their house, office, etc.; collect: *I'll call for you at 9 o'clock.*

call sthg. ↔ **forth** *phr v* [T] *fml* to cause (esp. a quality) to appear to be used; EVOKE

call sbdy/sthg. ↔ **in** *phr v* [T] **1** to ask to come to help: *Call the doctor in.* **2** to request the return of: *The makers have called in some cars with dangerous faults.* | *to call in a loan* (=ask for it to be repaid)

call sthg. ↔ **off** *phr v* [T] **1** to cause (a planned event) not to take place: *The football match was called off because of the snow.* **2** to order (an activity) to be stopped: *After three days of searching the police chief called off the hunt for the escaped prisoner.* **3** to order to keep away: *Call off your dog – it's attacking me!*

call on/**upon** sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** to pay a short visit to: *We can call on Mary tomorrow.* **2** [+*obj*+*to-v*] *fml* to ask (someone) to do something, esp. formally: *The congress has called on the President to answer these charges.* | *I now call on the best man to make a speech.* **3** to need to use: *to call on all one's strength*

call sbdy. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] **1** to officially order (esp. a group) to come together in order to provide help: *The Government had to call out the army to restore order.* **2** *esp. BrE* to order to go on STRIKE: *The miners' leader called out his men.*

call up *phr v* **1** [I;T (=**call** sbdy. ↔ **up**)] *esp. AmE* to telephone: *I'll call you up this evening.* **2** [T] (**call** sbdy. ↔ **up**) to order (someone) to join the armed forces; DRAFT: *He was called up in 1917.* –see also CONSCRIPT[1] **3** [T] (**call** sbdy./sthg. ↔ **up**) to bring back; cause to come back: *This song calls up memories of my childhood.* | *The magician says he can call up the spirits of the dead.*

call[2] *n* **1** [C] a shout or cry: *We heard a call for help.* | *This bird has a very distinctive call.* | *Give me a call when you're ready to leave.* **2** [C (**for**)] a request or command for someone to do something or go somewhere: *The minister waited for a call to the palace.* | *Most of the staff ignored the union's strike call and went into work.* | *The finance minister has rejected calls from businessmen for lower interest rates.* [+*to-v*] *There have been calls for the government to release the detainees.* | (fig.) *He felt the call of the sea.* (=its attraction) **3** [C] an attempt to speak to someone by telephone : *I have a call for you from London.* | *I have a few calls to make.* | *Ask her to return my call when she gets home, please.* **4** [C(**on**)] a short visit, esp. of an official or professional kind: *The doctor is out on a call.* | *The President is making*/*paying a call on the king.* **5** [C;U (**for, on**)] a demand or need: *We don't stock men's hats – there isn't much call for them nowadays.* | *She has so many calls on her time that it is almost impossible to see her.* [+*to-v*] *You have no call to say that!* **6** [C]

BrE (in card games) a BID[2] (3) or a player's turn to bid: *Whose call is it?* **7** [C] (in sports and games) the decision of an UMPIRE or REFEREE **8** [C] an act of waking someone: *He asked the hotel clerk for a seven o'clock call.* **9** [C] an instrument used by hunters, which makes a sound like the cry of a bird or animal in order to attract it: *a duck call* **10** [C] the right to buy a certain quantity of something, e.g. shares, at a fixed price within a given time – compare PUT[2] **11 on call** not working but ready to work if needed: *The nurse is on call tonight.* **12 within call** near enough to hear a call –see also CALL OF NATURE, CURTAIN CALL, PORT OF CALL

Cal·lag·han /ˈkæləhən, -hæn/, **Sir James (Jim** /dʒɪm/) (1912–) a British Labour politician and PRIME MINISTER from 1976 to 1979

cal·la·net·ics /ˌkælə'netɪks/ *n* [U + *sing./pl. v*] *tdmk* physical exercises intended to develop healthy and strong bodies without developing big muscles

Maria Callas



Cal·las /ˈkæləs/, **Ma·ri·a** /məˈriːə/ (1923–77) an American OPERA singer born of Greek parents, known for her powerful performances

call box /ˈ· ·/ also **phone booth, phone box, telephone booth, telephone box**– *n BrE* a small hut or enclosure containing a public telephone –see TELEPHONE (USAGE)

call·er /ˈkɔːləʳ/ *n* **1** a person who makes a short visit: *John's a regular caller here.* **2** a person making a telephone call, esp. as addressed by the OPERATOR: *I'm sorry, caller, the number's engaged.* | *An anonymous caller warned the police about the bomb on the train.* **3** a person who calls out numbers in a game (such as BINGO) **4** *AmE* a person who calls out the steps for a SQUARE DANCE

call girl /ˈ· ·/ *n* a woman PROSTITUTE who makes her arrangements by telephone

cal·lig·ra·phy /kəˈlɪgrəfi/ *n* [U] (the art of producing) beautiful writing by hand –**-pher, -phist** *n*

call-in /ˈ· ·/ *n AmE for* PHONE-IN

call·ing /ˈkɔːlɪŋ/ *n* **1** a strong urge or feeling of duty to do a particular kind of work; VOCATION **2** *fml* a person's profession or trade

cal·li·pers also **calipers** *AmE* /ˈkælɨpəz‖-ərz/ [P] **1** an instrument consisting of two legs fixed together at one end, used for measuring thickness, the distance between two surfaces, and inner width (DIAMETER) –see PAIR (USAGE) **2** *BrE* metal supports fixed to the legs to help a person with weak legs to walk

cal·lis·then·ics , calisthenics /ˌkælɨsˈθenɪks/ *n* [U+*sing.*/pl. v] physical exercises intended to develop healthy, strong, and beautiful bodies –**-ic** *adj* [A]

call let·ters /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* [P] *AmE* see CALL SIGN

call num·ber /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n AmE* The number written on a library book that tells what part of the library it is kept in

call of na·ture /ˌ· · ˈ·· / *n euph* a need to pass liquid or solid waste matter from the body

call op·tion /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n tech* the right to buy a fixed number of SHARES[1] (2) at a particular price within a set period of time

cal·lous /ˈkæləs/ *adj* **1** unkind; without sympathy for the sufferings of other people: *his callous disregard for the safety of his workers* **2** *med* (of the skin) hard and thick –compare CALLUS – ~**ly** *adv* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

call-out /ˈ· ·/ *n BrE* an action of calling e.g. a service engineer to come and do a job in one's house: *Do you have a* **call-out charge** *as well as a charge for labour?* | *A £30 call-out fee*

cal·low /ˈkæləʊ/ *adj derog* (of a person or behaviour) young and without experience; IMMATURE: *a callow youth*

call sign /ˈ· ·/ also **call letters** *AmE*– *n* a name, made up of letters and numbers, given to people operating radios, or to radio stations, to prove who they are

call-up /ˈ· ·/ *BrE*‖**draft** *AmE*– *n* an order to serve in the armed forces: *He got his call-up papers in July.* –see also CALL **up** (2)

cal·lus /ˈkæləs/ also **cal·los·i·ty** /kəˈlɒsɨti‖kəˈlɑː-/– *n* an area of thick hard skin: *calluses on his hands* –compare CALLOUS

calm[1] /kɑːm‖kɑːm, kɑːlm/ *adj* **1** free from excitement, nervous activity, or strong feeling; quiet and untroubled: *The police chief advised his men to stay/keep calm and not lose their tempers.* | *a calm manner* | *After yesterday's fighting on the border, the situation is now fairly calm again.* **2 a** (of weather) not windy: *After the storm it was calm.* **b** (of water) not rough; smooth: still: *The sea was calm.* – ~**ly** *adv* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

calm[2] *n* [S;U] **1** peace and quiet; absence of excitement or nervous activity: *working in the calm of the library* **2** an absence of wind or rough weather; stillness: *the calm after the storm*

calm[3] *v* [T] to make calm: *She calmed the baby by giving him some milk.* | *This announcement will calm the fears of conservationists.*

calm down *phr v* [I;T (=**calm** sbdy. ↔ **down**)] to make or become calm: *Calm down – there's nothing to worry about!* | *We tried to calm him down, but he kept shouting and swearing.*

cal·or gas /ˈkælə gæs‖-lər-/ *n* [U] *BrE tdmk* (*sometimes cap.*) a type of gas (BUTANE) sold in metal containers for use where there is no gas supply: *When we camp we usually cook with Calor gas.*

cal·o·rie /ˈkæləri/ *n* **1** a measure used to show the amount of heat or ENERGY (3) that a food will produce. When people are trying to lose weight by avoiding certain foods, they sometimes say that they are **counting their calories** or **watching their calories**: *One thin piece of bread has 90 calories.* | *a calorie-controlled diet* **2** a unit of heat –compare BTU

cal·o·rif·ic /ˌkælə'rɪfɪk◂/ *adj* **1** *tech* heat-producing: *This coal has a high calorific value.* **2** *infml* (of food) tending to make one fat: *That chocolate cake looks very calorific.*

ca·lum·ni·ate /kəˈlʌmni-eɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to speak calumnies about (someone); SLANDER

cal·um·ny /ˈkæləmni/ *n* [C;U (**against**)] *fml* (the act of making) an incorrect and unjust report about a person with the intention of destroying the good opinion that other people have of him/her

cal·va·ry /ˈkælvəri/ *n* a model which represents the death of Christ (CRUCIFIXION)

Calvary the Roman name for the place near Jerusalem where Christ died by being crucified (CRUCIFY)

calve /kɑːv‖kæv/ *v* [I] to give birth to a CALF: *The cow calved yesterday.*

calves /kɑːvz‖kævz/ *pl. of* CALF

Cal·vin /ˈkælvɨn/, **John** (1509–64) a French Protestant THEOLOGIAN (=person who studied religion) involved in the REFORMATION and known for the severity of his system

Cal·vin·ism /ˈkælvɨnɪzəm/ *n* [U] the Christian religious teachings of John Calvin based on the idea that events on Earth are controlled by God and cannot be changed by Man

cal·vin·ist /ˈkælvɨnɨst/ *adj* **1** of or following Calvinism **2** also **Cal·vin·ist·ic** /ˌkælvɨˈnɪstɪk◂/– *infml, often derog* having severe moral standards and tending to disapprove of pleasure; PURITANICAL: *She had a strict Calvinist upbringing.* – **Calvinist** *n*

ca·lyp·so /kəˈlɪpsəʊ/ *n* **-sos** *or* **-soes** a West Indian song based on a subject of interest in the news, often played by a STEEL BAND

ca·lyx /ˈkælɪks, ˈkeɪ-‖ˈkeɪ-/ *n* **calyces** /ˈkælɨsiːz, ˈkeɪ-‖

ˈkeɪ-/ *or* **calyxes** *tech* a ring of leaves (SEPALS) which protects a flower before it opens and later supports the opened flower

cam /kæm/ *n* a wheel or part of a wheel shaped to change circular movement into backwards-and-forwards movement

ca·ma·ra·de·rie /ˌkæməˈrɑːdəri‖-ˈræ-, -ˈrɑː-/ *n* [U] the friendliness and goodwill shown to each other by friends, esp. people who spend time together at work, in the army, etc.

Ca·margue /kæˈmɑːg‖-ˈmɑːrg/ an area in S France at the DELTA of the River Rhône. It is a national park well-known for the richness of its animal life, esp. birds.

Cam·ay /ˈkæmeɪ/ *n tdmk* a type of soap made by Procter & Gamble Limited; it is thought to be good for the skin

cam·ber /ˈkæmbəʳ/ *n* [C;U] a slight upward curve towards the centre of a road or other surface, which causes water to run off to the side

Cam·bo·di·a /kæmˈbəʊdiə/ a country in SE Asia between Thailand and Vietnam; former name Kampuchea; capital Phnom Penh; population 2,055,000 (1989)

Cam·bri·an Moun·tains /ˌkæmbriən ˈmaʊntɨnz/ *n* [*the* + P] a group of mountains running from N to S across the middle of Wales

cam·bric /ˈkeɪmbrɪk/ *n* [U] a fine white cloth of cotton or LINEN

Cam·bridge /ˈkeɪmbrɪdʒ/ **1** a city in E England on the River Cam, famous for its old university. The local government for Cambridgeshire is based in Cambridge. —see colour map on page 818 **2** a city in E Massachusetts, US, across the Charles River from Boston where Harvard University is

Cambridge Cer·tif·i·cate /ˌ·· ·ˈ···/ [*the*] the short name for either of two examinations in English as a foreign language run by an examinations board of Cambridge University. The lower examination's official name is the First Certificate in English, and the higher is called the Certificate of Proficiency in English.

Cam·bridge·shire /ˈkeɪmbrɪdʒʃəʳ/ a COUNTY in E England whose main town is Cambridge

Cambridge U·ni·ver·si·ty /ˌ·· ··ˈ···/ one of the oldest and most highly regarded British universities. Students must pass a special examination before they are accepted by the university, and the students who go there often come from PUBLIC SCHOOLS. —see also OXFORD UNIVERSITY and see OXBRIDGE (CULTURAL NOTE)

cam·cor·der /ˈkæmkɔːdəʳ‖-kɔːr-/ *n* a VIDEO camera and recorder in one machine, which can be carried around

Cam·den /ˈkæmdən/ a BOROUGH in N London which is a fashionable place to live

came /keɪm/ *past tense of* COME

cam·el /ˈkæməl/ *n* either of two large long-necked animals used for riding or carrying goods in desert countries: **a** also **dromedary**— the Arabian camel with one large HUMP on its back **b** the **Bactrian camel** from Asia with two large HUMPS on its back —see also **the straw that breaks the camel's back** (STRAW)

cam·el·hair /ˈkæməlheəʳ/ *n* [U] **1** a thick yellowish brown cloth made from a mixture of types of wool, usu. used for making coats **2** fine hair used in making paintbrushes

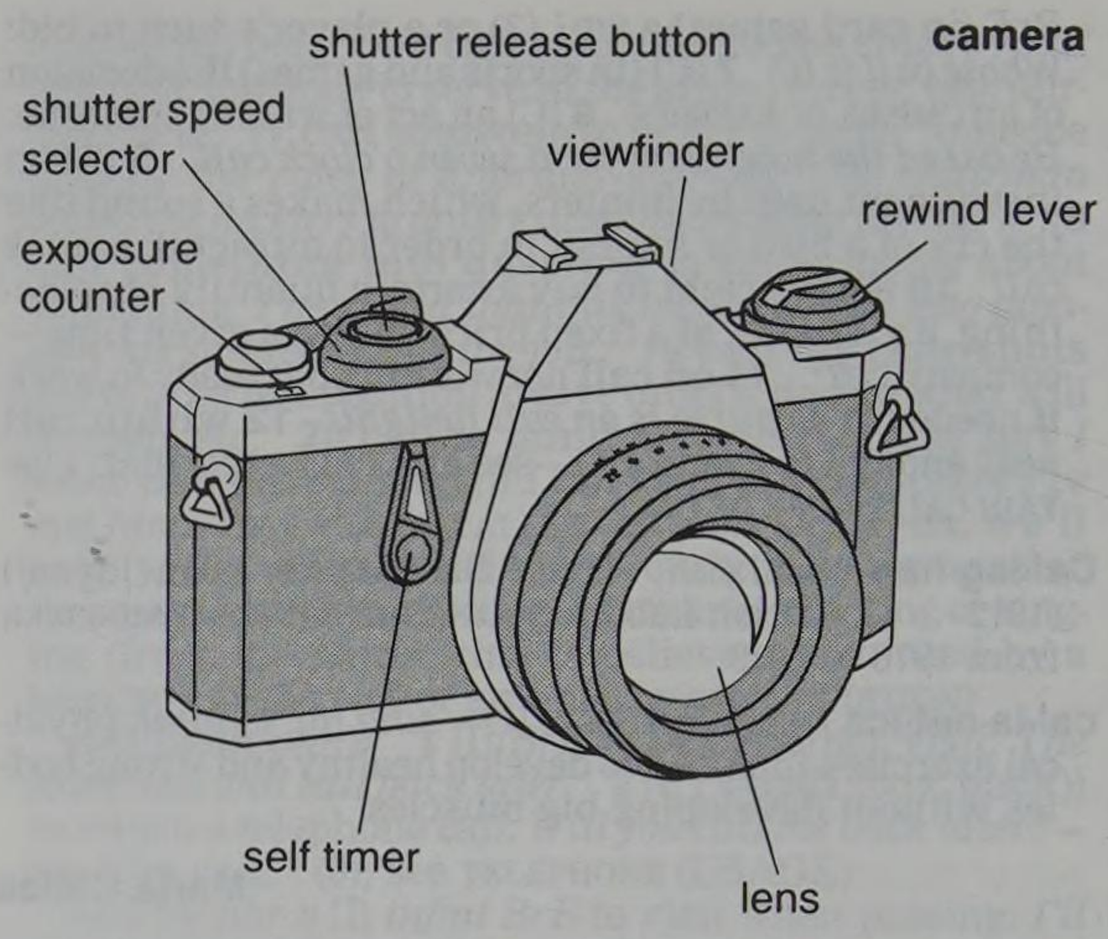
ca·mel·li·a /kəˈmiːliə/ *n* (a bush with) a large sweet-smelling flower like a rose

Cam·e·lot /ˈkæməlɒt‖-lɑːt/ the place of King Arthur's court, thought of as a wonderful magical place —see ARTHURIAN LEGEND

cam·em·bert /ˈkæməmbeəʳ/ *n* [C;U] (a circular piece of) a French cheese with a greyish-white outside and a soft yellowish inside

cam·e·o /ˈkæmi-əʊ/ *n* **-eos** **1** (a piece of jewellery consisting of) a raised shape or figure on the background of a small fine flat stone of a different colour: *a cameo brooch* **2** a short piece of writing or acting, esp. a small part in a film or play acted by a well-known actor

cam·e·ra /ˈkæmərə/ *n* **1** an apparatus for taking still or moving photographs **2** the part of the equipment used for making television pictures which changes images into electrical signals **3 in camera** (esp. of a law case) held in secret; privately: *The case involved official secrets, so it was held in camera.*



camera

cam·e·ra·man /ˈkæmərəmən/ *n* **-men** /mən/ a person who operates a camera for films or television

camera-shy /ˈ··· ·/ *adj* (of a person) not liking to be photographed

Cam·e·roon , Cameroun /ˌkæməˈruːn/ a country in W Africa in the Gulf of Guinea; capital Yaoundé; population 11,540,000 (1989) — **~ian** *n, adj*

cam·i-knick·ers /ˈkæmi ˌnɪkəz‖-ərz/ *n* [P] *BrE* a woman's undergarment worn esp. in former times combining camisole and KNICKERS. Cami-knickers are becoming popular again and are considered to be more sexy than other underclothes. —see PAIR (USAGE)

cam·i·sole /ˈkæmɨsəʊl/ *n* a short undergarment worn esp. formerly by women on the top half of the body

cam·o·mile , chamomile /ˈkæməmaɪl/ *n* [C;U] a plant whose small sweet-smelling white and yellow flowers have medicinal qualities: *camomile tea*

cam·ou·flage[1] /ˈkæməflɑːʒ/ *n* [C;U] **1** the way that the colour or shape of something can make it difficult to see in its surroundings: *Many animals have a natural camouflage which hides them from their enemies.* **2** the use of branches, paints, nets, smoke, etc. to hide something, esp. a military object: *The soldiers covered their helmets with leaves as camouflage.*

camouflage[2] *v* [T] to hide by using camouflage: *The soldiers camouflaged the guns with branches of trees.*

camp[1] /kæmp/ *n* **1** [C;U] a place where people live in tents or huts, usu. for a short time: *We pitched our camp* (=put it in position) *near the mountaintop.* | *We'll soon be back in camp.* | *Let's go back to camp; it's getting dark.* | *Tomorrow we'll have to* **break camp.** (=take up the tents and put them away) | *When we went to the coast we stayed in a* **holiday camp**. —see also DAY CAMP **2** [C] (*usu. in comb.*) a place where people live in tents or huts, often unwillingly and for a long time: *a labour camp* | *a refugee camp* | *a military training camp* —see also CONCENTRATION CAMP, PRISON CAMP **3** [C+*sing./pl. v*] a group of people or organizations who share the same ideas or principles, esp. in politics: *This is the policy favoured by the pro-nuclear camp.* | *The party divided into two separate camps on the issue.*

camp[2] *v* [I] to set up a camp or live in a camp: *The hunters camped near the river.* | *We go camping every summer.* | *a shop that sells camping equipment*

camp out *phr v* [I] **1** to sleep outdoors **2** *infml, esp. BrE* to live in uncomfortable conditions for a short time: *We'll just have to camp out until all our furniture arrives.*

camp up *phr v* **camp it up** *infml* to act or behave in a funny unnatural way, with too much movement of the hands and too much expression in the voice; OVERACT

camp[3] *adj infml* **1** (of a man) behaving or looking like a woman, esp. in an intentional way: *camp mannerisms* **2** so unreal, unnatural, or pretended, etc., as to be amusing **3** HOMOSEXUAL

cam·paign[1] /kæmˈpeɪn/ *n* **1** a connected set of military actions forming a separate part of a war **2** a connected set of actions intended to obtain a particular result, esp. in politics or business: *She fought a successful election campaign.* | *an advertising campaign* | *The government has launched a campaign against smoking.* | *He is a campaign coordinator for a well-known charity.*

campaign[2] *v* [I (**for, against**)] to lead, take part in, or go on a campaign: *Joan is campaigning for women's right to equal pay.* —~**er** *n*

Campaign for Nu·cle·ar Dis·ar·ma·ment /ˌ···ˌ···ˈ···/ also **CND**— [*the*] a British organization, esp. well known in the 1960s, which protests against the making and the use of NUCLEAR WEAPONS —see also ALDERMASTON

cam·pa·ni·le /ˌkæmpəˈniːli/ *n* a high bell tower which stands separately from any other building

cam·pa·nol·o·gy /ˌkæmpəˈnɒlədʒi‖-ˈnɑː-/ *n* [U] the art of ringing bells —**-gist** *n*

Cam·pa·ri /kæmˈpɑːri/ *n* [C;U] *tdmk* a bitter red alcoholic drink often drunk before a meal

camp bed /ˌ·ˈ·‖ˈ·/ *BrE* ‖ usu. **cot** *AmE*— *n* a light bed which folds flat and is easily carried —see picture at BED

Camp·bell /kæmbəl/, **Ben Nighthorse** /ben ˈnaɪhɔːs‖-hɔːrs/ a Democratic politician who in 1992 became the first Native American elected to the US Senate, representing Colorado

Campbell Soup Com·pa·ny /ˌ·· ˈ· ˌ···/ *tdmk* a food company known esp. for its soup: *Campbell's tomato soup*

Camp Da·vid /ˌ· ˈ··/ a place in Maryland, US where the president goes to relax. Most people remember it as the place where the 1979 peace TREATY (=agreement) between Israel and Egypt was signed.

camp·er /ˈkæmpəʳ/ *n* **1** a person who camps **2** *AmE* a contained room fitted onto a PICK-UP (2) big enough to live in when on holiday, having cooking equipment and beds in it —compare CARAVAN (2)

camp·fire /ˈkæmpfaɪəʳ/ *n* a wood fire made in the open air by campers

Camp Fire /ˈ· ·/ an American organization for girls and, since 1975, boys, in which they learn practical and social skills, and sometimes go camping (CAMP[2])

camp fol·low·er /ˈ· ˌ···/ *n* **1** *often derog* a follower or supporter (e.g. of a political plan, party, or leader) who is not actually a member of the main group **2** (esp. formerly) a person (esp. a PROSTITUTE) who is not a soldier but who follows the army from place to place to provide services

camp·ground /ˈkæmpgraʊnd/ *n esp. AmE* an area in which people may camp

cam·phor /ˈkæmfəʳ/ *n* [U] a strong-smelling white substance with various medical and industrial uses, which is also used to keep insects away

camping gas /ˈ·· ·/ *BrE n* gas, usu. in a small, CYLINDRICAL container, used to produce light and heat for cooking when camping

camp rob·ber /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* an American bird which seems unafraid of people and often flies away with food and other things that attract it

camp·site /ˈkæmpsaɪt/ *n* **1** *esp. BrE* a place, such as a field, used for camping in **2** *AmE* a place, often within a campground, for one group, family, or person to camp in

camp·stool /ˈkæmpstuːl/ *n AmE* a small folding seat with no back

cam·pus /ˈkæmpəs/ *n* [C;U] the grounds and buildings of a university or college: *The new library was built in the centre of the campus.* | *a campus university* (=one in which all the buildings are in the same area, often outside a town) | *Do you live* **on campus** *or in the town?*

CAMRA /ˈkæmrə/ Campaign for Real Ale; an organization in Britain which encourages the sale and drinking of beer made in the old way, and supports PUBS which sell it

cam·shaft /ˈkæmʃɑːft‖-ʃæft/ *n* a rod to which a CAM is fastened

Ca·mus /kæˈmjuː/, **Al·bert** /ˈælbeəʳ/ (1913–60) a French writer and thinker who wrote about the meaningless nature of human life

can[1] /kən; *strong* kæn/ *v* [*modal+to-v*] *3rd person sing.* **can,** *negative short form* **can't** **1** to be able to: *He's so tall he can touch the ceiling.* | *This machine can perform two million calculations per second.* | *I can't remember where I put it.* | *They have everything that money can buy.* | *Can you lift this box?* | *The police still haven't found her, but they're doing all they can.* **2** (used to show what is possible or likely): *I'm sure we can settle this problem.* | *I am confident that a solution can be found.* | *There can be no doubt that he is guilty.* | *The word "bank" can be used in several different ways|can have several different meanings.* | *Can he still be alive after all this time?* **3** to know how to: *She can speak French.* **4** to be allowed to or have permission to; may: *You can't play football here.* | *"Can we go home now, please?" "No, you can't."* | *You can't pick the ball up in football.* (=it is against the rules) **5** [*usu. in questions or negatives*] to allow oneself to: *She's left her husband, but can you blame her after the way he treated her?* | *It's a very kind offer, but I really can't accept it.* **6** to have to; must: *If you won't keep quiet you can get out!* **7** (used when asking someone to do something, give something, etc.): *Can you help me to lift it, please?* | *Can I have one of your cigarettes?* —compare COULD (5) **8** (used esp. in expressions of surprise) may perhaps: *What can it possibly be?* | *You can't be serious!* | *Whatever can they want?* **9** (used to show what sometimes happens): *It can get quite cold here at night.* | *He can be quite annoying sometimes.* **10** (used with verbs expressing actions of the five senses and of the mind): *I can see|hear you easily from here.* | *I can't understand him when he speaks so fast.* | *You can imagine how annoyed she was!* —see also CANNOT, CAN'T, COULD

▷USAGE 1 Except in formal writing, **can** is now more common than **may** to express "permission": *You* **can** *go now.* It is also used to express permission for the future: *You* **can** *borrow my car tomorrow.* 2 **Can** expresses present ability: *I* **can** *swim now.* To express future ability use **will be able:** *I'***ll be able** *to play the Beethoven violin concerto if I practise for long enough.* For past ability see COULD (USAGE). 3 **Can** is not usually used to express the idea of "perhaps" (uncertainty). Instead, we use **may, might,** or (less commonly) **could:** *The road* **may/might/could** *be blocked.* (=Perhaps the road is blocked.) But **can** is used to ask questions about possibility: **Can** *this be true?* (=I am surprised) and to say that something is impossible: *This* **can't** *be true.* 4 **Can** is often used with verbs that concern the mind and the senses, such as *believe, feel, hear, see*: I'm looking at this photograph; I **can** *see some famous people in it.* —see also COULD (USAGE), MIGHT (USAGE), NOT (USAGE), SEE (USAGE)◁

can[2] /kæn/ *n* **1** [C] a closed metal container in which foods are preserved without air; TIN[1] (2): *He opened a can of beans|of beer.* **2** [C] a usu. round metal container with an open top or removable lid and sometimes with handles, used for holding milk, oil, waste, ashes, etc.: *a petrol can* **3** [C (**of**)] also **can·ful** /-fʊl/— the contents of a can **4** [*the*+S] *sl* **a** prison **b** *AmE* a TOILET **5 in the can** *infml* (of films) completed and ready for showing **6 can of worms** a very difficult situation which was hidden before: *The court case has opened up a real* **can of worms.** —see also **carry the can** (CARRY)

can[3] /kæn/ *v* **-nn-** [T] to preserve (food) by putting it in a closed metal or glass container without air: *The fish is canned in this factory.* | *canned fruit* —see also CANNED, CANNING

can[4] /kæn/ *v* **-nn-** [T] *AmE infml* **1** to dismiss from a job; SACK **2** to stop: *Can the noise, I'm on the telephone.*

Ca·na /ˈkeɪnə/ the ancient town of Galilee in the Bible, where Jesus performed his first MIRACLE when he changed water into wine at a wedding

Ca·naan /ˈkeɪnən/ the name for ancient Palestine and, in the Bible, the land promised to the Israelites by God — see also PROMISED LAND

Can·a·da /ˈkænədə/ a country in North America and a member of the Commonwealth; capital Ottawa; population 26, 219,000 (1989). Canada is one of the world's largest countries and rich in natural RESOURCES. English and French are the official languages. —**-dian** /kəˈneɪdiən/ *n, adj*

Canadian ba·con /·ˌ··· ˈ··/ *n* [U] *AmE* BACON with little fat in it

ca·nal /kəˈnæl/ *n* an artificial stretch of water dug in the ground **a** to allow ships or boats to travel along it: *The Panama canal joins two oceans.* | *The coal is delivered by canal.* **b** to bring water to or remove water from an area:

Canals have been built to irrigate the desert. —compare CHANNEL[1] (1); see also ALIMENTARY CANAL

canal boat /·ˈ· ·/ *n* a long narrow boat for use on a canal

Can·a·let·to /ˌkænəˈletəʊ‖-nəlˈetəʊ/, **An·to·ni·o** /ænˈtəʊniəʊ/ (1697–1768) a Venetian painter known esp. for his paintings of Venice —see colour picture on page 1016

can·a·lize also **-lise** *BrE* /ˈkænəl-aɪz/ *v* [T] **1** to deepen, straighten, or widen (a river), usu. to stop flooding **2** [(**into**)] to direct (a variety of actions) to one particular purpose: *The company intends to canalize all its efforts into improving its image with the public.* —**lization** /ˌkænəl-aɪˈzeɪʃən‖-nəl-ə-/ *n* [U]

can·a·pé /ˈkænəpeɪ‖-pi, -peɪ/ *n* a small piece of bread spread with cheese, fish, or meat and usu. served with drinks at a party

ca·nard /kæˈnɑːd‖kəˈnɑːrd/ *n Fr* a false report or piece of news

ca·nar·y /kəˈneəri/ *n* a small yellow bird often kept as a pet for its singing

Ca·na·ry Is·lands /·ˈ·· ˌ··/ also **Canaries** [*the*+P] a group of islands belonging to Spain near NW Africa which are popular with British people for a holiday in the sun

Canary Wharf /·ˌ·· ˈ·/ part of the Docklands development in E London. The Canary Wharf Tower is the tallest building in Britain.

ca·nas·ta /kəˈnæstə/ *n* [U] a card game in which two sets (PACKS) of cards are used

Can·ber·ra /ˈkæbərə/ the capital city of Australia

cancan



can·can /ˈkænkæn/ *n* (esp. in France in the 19th century) a fast dance performed on stage in which women kick their legs high and shake their long skirts

can·cel /ˈkænsəl/ *v* **-ll-** *BrE* ‖ **-l-** *AmE* [T] **1** to give up (a planned activity, event, etc.); state or decide that (something) will not happen: *She cancelled her trip to New York as she felt ill.* | *The match had to be cancelled owing to the bad weather.* | *We regret to announce that the 10.30 train to Glasgow has been cancelled.* —compare POSTPONE **2** to destroy the force, effectiveness, or value of: *I've cancelled my subscription to the magazine.* | *to cancel a cheque|postage stamp* (=by drawing a line through it)

cancel sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] to match exactly and so take away the effect of; balance: *The losses of our overseas section cancel out the profits made by the company at home.* | *The two factors cancel each other out.*

can·cel·la·tion /ˌkænsəˈleɪʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U] (an example of) the act of cancelling: *The cancellation of the order for planes led to the closure of the factory.* | *The flight is fully booked, but if there are any cancellations we will let you know.* **2** [C] the mark used when cancelling something, such as a postage stamp

can·cer /ˈkænsəʳ/ *n* [C;U] (a serious medical condition caused by) a diseased growth in the body, which may cause death. Cancer is a common cause of death in Western countries and is a disease that people are very frightened of getting: *lung cancer* | *He's got a cancer in his throat.* | *cancer of the breast* | (fig.) *Violence is the cancer* (=the spreading evil) *of modern society.* —compare CANKER; see also CARCINOGENIC — ~**ous** *adj* : *a cancerous growth*

Cancer *n* **1** [U] the fourth sign of the ZODIAC, represented by a CRAB (=a sea animal) —see ZODIAC (USAGE) and see picture at ZODIAC **2** [C] a person born between June 22 and July 22 —see also **Tropic of Cancer** (TROPIC)

C & A /ˌsiː ənd ˈeɪ/ *n* one of a group of large shops in Britain, known esp. for selling inexpensive clothes

can·de·la·brum /ˌkændəˈlɑːbrəm/ *n* **-brums** *or* **-bra** /brə/ a decorative holder for several candles or lamps —compare CANDLESTICK

can·did /ˈkændəd/ *adj* open, honest, and sincere in manner; directly truthful, even when telling the truth is unwelcome: *I would like your candid opinion of these proposals.* | *To be quite candid, I don't like your hairstyle.* —see also CANDOUR — ~**ly** *adv* : *She talked quite candidly about her unhappy marriage.*

can·di·da /ˈkændədə/ *n* [U] a type of FUNGUS (2) from the Candida group esp. candida albicans which causes THRUSH (2)

can·di·da·cy /ˈkændədəsi/ also **can·di·da·ture** /ˈkændədətʃəʳ/ *esp. BrE*— *n* [C;U] the fact of being a candidate, esp. for a political office: *He announced his candidacy for the next presidential election.*

can·di·date /ˈkændədət‖-deɪt, -dət/ *n* **1** [(**for**)] a person who wants to be chosen for a job or elected to a position, or whom other people have suggested as a suitable person for such a job or position: *They are interviewing candidates for the job of sales manager.* | *a parliamentary candidate* **2** *esp. BrE* a person taking an examination —see also extra information on page 412

Candid Cam·e·ra /ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n* a television programme of the 1950s and 1960s, both in Britain and the US, in which ordinary people were secretly filmed in amusing, difficult, or embarrassing situations. Although the programme is no longer on the television, people still sometimes use the phrase, "Smile – you're on Candid Camera!" which was always used to tell people that they were being filmed.

Can·dide /kɒnˈdiːd‖kɑːn-/ a book written in 1759 by the French PHILOSOPHER Voltaire about a young man, Candide, who has little knowledge of the world and cannot recognize evil. He travels around and has many unusual adventures which show him the wickedness of the world.

can·died /ˈkændid/ *adj* [A] covered with shiny sugar: *candied fruit*

can·dle /ˈkændl/ *n* **1** a usu. round stick of WAX containing a length of string (WICK) which gives light when it burns **2 can't hold/is not fit to hold a candle to** *infml* to be not nearly as good as: *No one can hold a candle to him when it comes to playing the guitar.* **3 Out, out brief candle!** *quote* a phrase from Shakespeare's play *Macbeth*, said by Macbeth when he is talking about how short and meaningless our lives are —see also ROMAN CANDLE, **burn the candle at both ends** (BURN[1])

can·dle·light /ˈkændl-laɪt/ *n* [U] the light produced by candles. Candlelight is thought to be ROMANTIC and to encourage interest between the sexes: *We dined by candlelight.*

candle-lit /ˈ·· ·/ *adj* lit by candles: *a candle-lit dinner for two*

Can·dle·mas /ˈkændlmæs/ February 2nd, kept as a special religious day to remember the presentation of Christ in the temple and the making pure of the Virgin Mary

can·dle·stick /ˈkændlˌstɪk/ *n* a holder for usu. one candle —compare CANDELABRUM

can·dle·wick /ˈkændlˌwɪk/ *n* [U] cloth with a decorative pattern made of rows of raised short threads separated from other rows by bare material: *a candlewick bedspread*

can·dour *BrE* ‖ **-dor** *AmE* /ˈkændəʳ/ *n* [U] the quality of being sincerely honest and truthful (CANDID)

C & W /ˌsiː ənd ˈdʌbəljuː/ *n abbrev. for* COUNTRY AND WESTERN

candy /ˈkændi/ *n* [U;C] *esp. AmE* (a shaped piece of) various types of boiled sugar, sweets, or chocolate: *Eating all that candy will rot your teeth!* | *Is there a candy machine here somewhere?* —compare SWEET[2] (1)

candy ap·ple /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n AmE for* TOFFEE APPLE

candy bar /ˈ·· ·/ *n AmE* a bar covered with chocolate and filled with a variety of different sweets: *What's your favorite candy bar?*

can·dy·floss /ˈkændiflɒs‖-flɑːs, -flɔːs/ *BrE* ‖ **cotton candy** *AmE*— *n* [U] fine sticky often coloured sugar threads eaten as a sweet and usu. on a stick. Candyfloss is connected with CARNIVALS, FAIRS, and AMUSEMENT PARKS and

in Britain it is also sold in seaside towns, and people often eat it when they are on holiday.

can·dy-striped /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *adj* (esp. of cloth) having narrow coloured lines on a white background: *a candy-striped blouse*

candy strip·er /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n AmE* a girl who does VOLUNTARY (=without pay) work in a hospital

cane[1] /keɪn/ *n* **1** [C] the hard smooth thin often hollow stem of certain plants (tall grasses such as BAMBOO) —see also SUGARCANE **2** [C] a long thin stick used by schoolteachers, esp. in the past, to beat children as a punishment for bad behaviour: *The teacher gave him the cane* (=hit him with a cane) *for fighting in school.* **3** [U] lengths of cane used as a material for making furniture: *cane chairs* **4** [C] a length of cane used for supporting weak plants, for helping weak people to walk: a walking cane **5** [C] the woody stem of certain fruit-picking plants: *raspberry canes*

cane[2] *v* [T] *esp. BrE* **1** to punish (someone) by hitting them with a cane: *a campaign to abolish caning in schools* **2** (esp. in newspapers) to defeat completely; TROUNCE: *England were caned by France in last night's game.*

ca·nine /ˈkeɪnaɪn, ˈkæ-‖ˈkeɪ-/ *adj, n tech* (of, for, or typical of) a dog or related animal

canine tooth /ˈ·· ·/ *n* any of four sharp pointed teeth in the human mouth —compare INCISOR, and see picture at TEETH

can·is·ter /ˈkænɨstəʳ/ *n* **1** a usu. metal container for holding a dry substance, such as tea —see picture at CONTAINER **2** a small container which bursts and scatters its contents when thrown or fired from a gun: *a canister of teargas*

can·ker /ˈkæŋkəʳ/ *n* [C;U] (an area of) soreness caused by a disease which attacks the wood of trees and the flesh (esp. the mouth and ears) of animals and people: *Our cat has a canker in its ear.* | (fig.) *Violence is the canker* (=spreading evil) *in our society.* —compare CANCER —**~ous** *adj*

can·na·bis /ˈkænəbɨs/ also **dope, grass, pot** *sl*— *n* [U] the drug produced from a particular type of HEMP plant (**Indian hemp**), sometimes smoked in cigarettes to give a feeling of pleasure, leading to sleepiness. Using and selling cannabis is against the law in most Western countries. —compare BHANG, HASHISH, MARIJUANA

canned /kænd/ *adj* **1** (of food) preserved in a tin: *canned beans* **2** *usu. derog* recorded in advance and having an unoriginal or artificial quality: *canned music in the airport lounge* | *canned laughter on a TV comedy show* **3** [F] *sl* drunk

can·nel·lo·ni /ˌkænɨˈləʊni/ *n* [U] small quantities of meat or cheese, each with a covering of PASTA

can·ne·ry /ˈkænəri/ *n* a factory where food is put in tins

Cannes /kæn/ a fashionable seaside holiday town in the S of France where an important international FILM FESTIVAL is held

can·ni·bal /ˈkænɨbəl/ *n* **1** a person who eats human flesh

►CULTURAL NOTE Many people are familiar with an old STEREOTYPE of cannibals, which show them as black African men with bones through their noses and wearing grass skirts. In the drawings, they are usu. waving their spears as they dance round a fire on which they are cooking an EXPLORER or a MISSIONARY.◄

2 an animal which eats the flesh of other animals of the same kind: *Some fish are cannibals.* —**~ism** *n* [U] —**~istic** /ˌkænɨbəˈlɪstɪk◂/ *adj*

can·ni·bal·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /ˈkænɨbəlaɪz/ *v* [T] to take (a machine) to pieces to use the parts in other machines: *He cannibalized his old car to repair the new one.*

can·ning /ˈkænɪŋ/ *n* [U] *AmE* the preserving of food by storing it in tins or JARS, esp. at home: *These tomatoes will be good for canning.* | *I'm out of canning jars.*

can·non[1] /ˈkænən/ *n* **cannons** *or* **cannon** a large powerful gun, often fixed to the ground or onto a two-wheeled carriage or, in modern times, fixed to an aircraft: *a 15th century cannon* | *fighter planes armed with cannon* —see also WATER CANNON, and see picture at GUN

cannon[2] *v* [I+*adv*/*prep*] to hit or knock forcefully, esp. by accident: *She came running round the corner, cannoned into me, and knocked me over.*

can·non·ade /ˌkænəˈneɪd/ *n* continuous heavy firing by large guns

can·non·ball /ˈkænənbɔːl/ *n* a heavy iron ball fired from an old type of cannon

cannon fod·der /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [U] ordinary soldiers thought of as nothing but military material to be used without regard for their lives

can·not /ˈkænət, -nɒt‖-nɑːt/ *fml* **1** can not: *Mr Smith is sorry that he cannot accept your kind invitation to dinner.* —compare CAN'T; see CAN (USAGE), MUST (USAGE) **2 cannot but** *fml or pomp* must: *One cannot but admire her even if one may not like her.*

can·ny /ˈkæni/ *adj* **1** clever, careful, and not easily deceived, esp. in money matters; SHREWD **2** *N E EngE* nice; good: *a canny lass* —**-nily** *adv*

ca·noe[1] /kəˈnuː/ *n* a long light narrow boat, pointed at both ends, and moved by a PADDLE held in the hands: *to paddle a canoe* | *We crossed the lake by canoe.* —see also **paddle one's own canoe** (PADDLE[2] (5))

canoe[2] *v* **canoed,** *present participle* **canoeing** [I] to travel by canoe —**~ist** *n*

ca·no·la /kəˈnəʊlə/ *n* [U] *AmE* **1** RAPE[3] **2** oil from the seeds of RAPE[3], used in cooking

can·on[1] /ˈkænən/ *n* **1** an established law of the Christian church **2** *fml* a generally accepted standard of behaviour or thought: *His attack on her honesty offends against the canons of good taste.* **3** an official list of writings that are recognized as being truly the work of a certain writer or as being part of a larger collection of writings: *This poem is now accepted as belonging to the Shakespearian canon.*

canon[2] *n* a Christian priest with special duties in a CATHEDRAL

Canon *tdmk* a Japanese company that makes cameras, PHOTOCOPIERS, etc.

ca·non·i·cal /kəˈnɒnɪkəl‖kəˈnɑː-/ *adj* **1** according to CANON LAW **2** belonging to a CANON[1] (3)

can·on·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /ˈkænənaɪz/ *v* [T] (esp. in the Roman Catholic Church) to declare (a dead person) officially a SAINT: *Joan of Arc was canonized in 1920.* —**-ization** /ˌkænənaɪˈzeɪʃən‖-nəˈzeɪ-/ *n* [C;U]

canon law /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] the body of established law of the Christian church —compare CIVIL LAW, COMMON LAW, CRIMINAL LAW

ca·noo·dle /kəˈnuːdl/ *v* [I] *BrE old-fash infml* (of a man and a woman) to hold each other lovingly; CUDDLE: *canoodling in the back of the cinema*

can o·pen·er /ˈ· ˌ···/ *n esp. AmE* TIN OPENER —see picture at KITCHEN

can·o·py /ˈkænəpi/ *n* **1** a cover fixed above a baby's PRAM to protect the baby from the sun **2** a decorative cover usu. of cloth fixed above a bed or seat or carried on posts above a person on ceremonial occasions: (fig.) *a canopy of branches* **3** the enclosure over the front part (COCKPIT) of a plane

canst /kənst; *strong* kænst/ **thou canst** *old use or bibl* (when talking to one person) you can

cant[1] /kænt/ *n* [U] **1** *derog* insincere talk, esp. about moral or religious principles, intended to make oneself seem better than one is: *He pretends he cares about unemployment, but that's just politician's cant.* **2** special words used by a particular group of people, esp. to keep the meaning secret from others: *thieves' cant*

cant[2] *v* [I;T (OVER)] *BrE* to (cause to) slope or lean: *The boat began to cant (over).*

cant[3] *n* a sloping surface or angle

can't /kɑːnt‖kænt/ *short for:* **1** can not: *I can't understand what this means.* | *You can swim, can't you?* —compare CANNOT; see CAN (USAGE), MUST (USAGE) **2** (used as the opposite of **must,** to say that something is impossible or unlikely): *They can't have gone out because the light's on.* (compare *They must have gone out, because the light's not on.*) —compare MUST[1] (2)

Can·tab /ˈkæntæb/ *abbrev. for* (used esp. after the title of a degree) of Cambridge University: *Jane Smith, MA Cantab*

can·ta·loup also **-loupe** *AmE* /ˈkæntəluːp‖-ləʊp/ *n* [C;U] a

type of MELON with a hard green or yellow skin and juicy reddish-yellow flesh

can·tan·ker·ous /kæn'tæŋkərəs/ *adj infml* bad-tempered; quarrelsome: *a cantankerous old man* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

can·ta·ta /kæn'tɑːtə, kən-‖kən-/ *n* a musical work, usu. with a religious subject, which includes singing by single performers and by a CHORUS (group of singers). It is shorter than an ORATORIO. —compare ORATORIO

can·teen /kæn'tiːn/ *n* **1** *esp. BrE* a place in a factory, school, military camp, etc., where meals are provided, usu. quite cheaply: *lunch in the works canteen* —compare CAFETERIA **2** a small container in which water or other drink is carried, esp. by soldiers or travellers **3** *BrE* (a case containing) a set of knives, forks, and spoons (CUTLERY)

can·ter[1] /'kæntəʳ/ *n* **1** [S] the movement of a horse which is faster than a TROT but slower than a GALLOP: *We set off at a canter.* **2** [C] a ride at this speed: *I'm going for a canter round the field.*

canter[2] *v* [I;T] to (cause to) move at the speed of a canter —compare GALLOP[2], TROT[2] (1)

Can·ter·bu·ry /'kæntəbəri‖-tərberi/ a small city in SE England, famous for its CATHEDRAL, which is the chief church of the Church of England. The Archbishop of Canterbury is the head of the Church of England.

Canterbury Tales /ˌ···· '·/, **The** a long poem written by Geoffrey Chaucer in the 14th century, which includes a set of stories told by PILGRIMS on their way to Canterbury. The stories are famous esp. for their BAWDY humour. —see also WIFE OF BATH

can·ti·cle /'kæntɪkəl/ *n* a short religious song usu. taken from the Bible

can·ti·le·ver /'kæntl̩iːvəʳ‖-tl-iːvər/ *n* an armlike beam standing out from an upright supporting post or wall and used for supporting a shelf, either end of a bridge (a **cantilever bridge**), etc.

can·to /'kæntəʊ/ *n* **-tos** any of the main divisions of a long poem

can·ton /'kæntɒn, kæn'tɒn‖'kæntən, -tɑːn/ *n* a small political division of certain countries, esp. of Switzerland or France

Can·ton /ˌkæn'tɒn‖-'tɑːn/ the old name for GUANGZHOU —~**Cantonese** *adj*

Can·ton·ese /ˌkæntə'niːz◂/ *n* a Chinese language spoken in and around Guangzhou, formerly called **Canton**, in SE China. Cantonese is also spoken in Hong Kong and by most overseas Chinese in California and London —compare MANDARIN

can·tor /'kæntəʳ, -tɔːʳ/ *n* **1** the man who leads the people in prayer and who sings the music in a Jewish religious service **2** the leader of a CHOIR (=group of singers) in a church

Ca·nuck /kə'nʌk/ *n AmE infml* a Canadian, esp. one whose first language is French

Ca·nute /kə'njuːt‖-'nuːt/ (995?–1035) a Danish king of England whose followers thought that he could stop the sea rising by ordering it back, but he showed them that it was impossible. People sometimes mention Canute and the waves when they are talking about how impossible it is to stop something from happening.

can·vas /'kænvəs/ *n* **1** [U] strong rough cloth used for tents, sails, bags, etc.: *a canvas bag* | *We spent the night* **under canvas.** (=in a tent) **2** [C] (a piece of this used for) an oil painting: *The artist showed me her canvases.* (=completed paintings)

can·vass[1] /'kænvəs/ *v* **1** [I;T **(for)**] **a** to try to find out opinions, win political support, or get orders for goods, by going from place to place in (an area) and talking to (people): *The party claims to have canvassed over 70% of the votes.* | *An army of salespeople canvassed the country to promote the new product.* | *I'm canvassing (for the Republicans) tonight.* **b** to try to find out (opinions) or win (support or orders) in this way: *I've been canvassing the views of our members about the proposed changes.* —see colour picture on page 950 **2** [T] to examine or talk about in detail: *This suggestion is being widely canvassed as a possible solution to the dispute.* —~**er** *n*

canvass[2] *n* the act of canvassing: *a door-to-door|house-to-house canvass*

can·yon /'kænjən/ *n* a deep narrow steep-sided valley usu. with a river flowing through —see VALLEY (USAGE)

cap[1] /kæp/ *n* **1** a soft flat covering for the head that has a curved part sticking out at the front (a PEAK *or* VISOR) and is worn esp. as part of a uniform: *an officer's cap* — see picture at HAT

►CULTURAL NOTE In Britain caps are sometimes worn by schoolboys as part of their school uniform. Cloth caps are thought of as typical working-class men's hats, but upper-class men often wear cloth caps in the country. In the US BASEBALL players, and the people who support each team, wear caps with the team's MASCOT on them. Caps are also popular in the US with people who work in the sun, such as farmers.◄

2 a head-covering which is a sign of one's position, profession, membership of a team or club, etc.: *a nurse's cap* | *a cricketer's cap* **3** any of several kinds of tight-fitting head-covering: *a swimming cap* | *a shower cap* — see also STOCKING CAP **4** (*sometimes in comb.*) a protective covering for the end or top of an object: *Put the cap back on the bottle.* | (fig.) *a cap of snow on the hilltop* — see also ICE CAP, TOE and CAP **5** an upper limit, e.g. on an amount of money that can be spent or borrowed; CEILING (2) **6** also **Dutch cap**, **diaphragm**— a round usu. rubber object fitted inside a woman's VAGINA to allow her to have sex without having children —see also CONTRACEPTIVE **7** a small paper container holding enough explosive to cause a very small explosion, usu. used in toy guns **8 cap and gown** *AmE* the customary clothes worn for GRADUATION from a HIGHSCHOOL or university, consisting of a long black GOWN and a cap with a flat, square top **9** a head-covering given to a player chosen for a special team, esp. a national one, in cricket, football, RUGBY, etc.: *Next week Shilton gets his 100th cap for England.* **10 cap in hand** in a respectful and HUMBLE way: *to go cap in hand to the government for money* **11 set one's cap at** *old-fash infml* (of a woman) to try to attract (a man) esp. with the intention of marriage — see also **a feather in someone's cap** (FEATHER[1]), **put on one's thinking cap** (THINKING[1])

cap[2] *v* **-pp-** [T] **1** to cover the top of: *cloud-capped mountains* | *cap an oil well* **2** to improve on (what someone has said or done): *He capped my story with an even funnier one.* | *Cap that if you can!* | *His car was stolen, his wife left him, and* **to cap it all** (=in addition to everything else) *he lost his job!* **3** also **charge-cap** (of central government in Britain) to punish (a LOCAL AUTHORITY) by giving them less money than they expected because they have spent more than a certain amount **4** to choose for a team: *He's been capped for England at cricket.*

cap. **caps.** *written abbrev. for:* a capital letter

CAP /ˌsiː eɪ 'piː/ *n* [*the*] *abbrev. for:* COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY

ca·pa·bil·i·ty /ˌkeɪpə'bɪl̩ti/ *n* [C;U **(for, as)**] the fact or quality of being capable, or a way in which someone or something is capable: *No one doubts her capability for the job.* | *The engineer explained the plane's technical capabilities* | *a computer with a good graphics capability*

ca·pa·ble /'keɪpəbəl/ *adj* **1** [F+**of**] able; having the power, skill, or other qualities needed (to do something): *The company was not capable of handling such a large order.* | *She's capable of murder when she loses her temper!* **2** skilful and effective, esp. in practical matters: *a very capable doctor|manager|driver* **3** [F+**of**] able (to be); ready for; SUSCEPTIBLE: *That remark is capable of being* (=could be) *misunderstood.* | *The new design is capable of improvement.* —opposite **incapable** —**-bly** *adv*

ca·pa·cious /kə'peɪʃəs/ *adj fml* able to hold or contain a lot: *a capacious bottle|suitcase* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

ca·pa·ci·tor /kə'pæs̩təʳ/ *n* an apparatus that collects and stores electricity, as in a television set

ca·pac·i·ty /kə'pæs̩ti/ *n* **1** [S;U] **a** the amount that something can hold or contain: *The fuel tank has a capacity of 12 gallons.* | *The seating capacity of this theatre is 500.* | *The hall was filled to capacity.* (=completely full) | *The game was watched by a capacity crowd.* **b** the amount that something, esp. a factory, can produce: *This factory has a productive capacity of 200 cars a week.* | *working at full capacity* | *There is a lot of* **surplus|excess capacity** *in*

the steel industry. (=more can be produced than is actually needed) **2** [C;U (**for**)] ability or power: *He has a great capacity for enjoying himself.* [+*to-v*] *Her capacity to remember facts is remarkable.* | *Watching the interview, one could see that he had not lost his capacity for evasion.* **3** [C] a particular position or duty; ROLE: *I'm speaking* **in my capacity as** *minister of trade.* | *She is employed by them in an advisory capacity.*

ca·pa·ri·son /kə'pærɪsən/ *n* (esp. in former times) a decorative cloth covering for a horse (and rider) —**caparison** *v* [T]

cape[1] /keɪp/ *n* a loose outer garment (or part of a garment) without SLEEVES, fastened at the neck and hanging from the shoulders: *A bicycle cape will protect you in wet weather.* | *a coat with a cape collar* —compare CLOAK[1] (1)

cape[2] *n* (*often cap. as part of a name*) a piece of land standing out into the sea: *the Cape of Good Hope* | *Cape Cod*

Cape Ca·nav·er·al /ˌkeɪp kə'nævərəl/ the place in Florida, US, formerly called **Cape Kennedy**, from which ROCKETS are sent into space – see colour maps on pages 1374–5

Cape Cod /ˌ· '·/ a CAPE[2] off Massachusetts popular with tourists, and also the place where boats to Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket go from

Cape Col·o·ny /ˌ· '···/ a former name (until 1910) for CAPE PROVINCE

Cape Col·oured /ˌ· '··/ also **Coloured**– *n* in South Africa, a name used to describe a person of mixed black and white race

Cape Hat·te·ras /ˌkeɪp 'hætərəs/ a CAPE[2] off North Carolina, popular with tourists but also well known for the many ships that have been wrecked there

Cape Horn /ˌ· '·/ the extreme end of South America, known for its very bad weather and dangerous ocean currents

Cape Ken·ne·dy /ˌ· '···/ another name (1963–73) for **Cape Canaveral**

Cape of Good Hope /ˌ· · · '·/ [*the*] a mountainous PENINSULA that sticks out into the sea at the S end of South Africa

Cape Prov·ince /ˌ· '··/ a PROVINCE in the S of South Africa. Its full name is **Cape of Good Hope Province**, and it was formerly called **Cape Colony.**

ca·per[1] /'keɪpəʳ/ *v* [I (ABOUT)] *esp. lit* to jump about in a happy playful manner: *The lambs were capering (about) in the fields.*

caper[2] *n* **1** *esp. lit* a playful jumping movement: *children dancing and* **cutting capers** (=jumping about) **2** *sl* an activity, esp. a dishonest or illegal one

caper[3] *n* a small dark-green flower BUD used for giving a special sourish taste to food

Cape Town /'· ·/ a large city in South Africa near the Cape of Good Hope

Cape Verde /ˌkeɪp 'vɜːd‖-'vɜːrd/ a country made up of a group of islands in the Atlantic Ocean, W of Senegal; capital Praia; population 369,000 (1989)

ca·pil·la·ry /kə'pɪlərɪ‖'kæpəleri/ *n* a very fine hairlike tube, such as one of the smaller blood tubes in the body

capillary at·trac·tion /·ˌ··· ·'··‖'···· ·ˌ··/ *n* [U] *tech* the force which causes a liquid to rise up a narrow tube, e.g. water rising from the roots of a tree to the branches

cap·i·tal[1] /'kæpɪtl/ *n* **1** [C] a town which is the centre of government of a country or other political unit: *Paris is the capital of France.* | *What is the capital of California?* | (fig.) *Hollywood is the capital of the movie industry.* | *Can you name all the state capitals?* **2** [S;U] wealth, esp. money used to produce more wealth or for starting a business: *You need a lot of capital to start up a new newspaper.* | *The company was started with a capital of £10,000.* | *a successful firm that offers investors a high return on capital* | *They have a* **working capital** (=money that can be used in the course of business activity) *of £20,000.* | *What we need now is a big injection of capital.* —see also VENTURE CAPITAL **3** [C] a letter in its large form, esp. one at the beginning of a word; a capital letter: *The word DICTIONARY is printed here in capitals.* —compare LOWER CASE; see also UPPER CASE **4 make capital (out) of** to use to one's advantage: *The opposition parties are sure to make political capital out of the government's difficulties.*

capital[2] *adj* **1** [A] punishable by death: *Murder can be a capital offence.* —see also CAPITAL PUNISHMENT **2** [A] (of a letter) written or printed in its large form (such as A, B, C rather than a, b, c) —compare LOWER CASE **3** [A] of or concerning capital in the form of money or property: *a big programme of capital investment to modernize the railways* **4** *old-fash* excellent: *a capital dinner* | *That's capital!*

capital[3] *n* the top part of a COLUMN (1)

capital as·sets /ˌ··· '··/ *n* [P] the machines, buildings, and other property belonging to a company

capital ex·pen·di·ture /ˌ··· ·'···/ *n* [U] the buying of machinery and other long lasting ASSETS which will be used in the production process of a company over a long period of time

capital gains /ˌ··· '·/ *n* [P] profits made by selling possessions

capital gains tax /ˌ··· '· ·/ *n* a tax paid on profits made by selling possessions. For example, if someone buys a building, uses it for business, then sells it again, they must pay capital gains tax on the profit that they make from the sale.

capital goods /'··· ˌ·/ *n* [P] goods such as machines which are made for the purpose of producing other goods — compare CONSUMER GOODS

capital-in·ten·sive /ˌ··· ·'··◂/ *adj* (of an industry) needing a lot of CAPITAL[1] (2) compared to its other needs, such as workers —compare LABOUR-INTENSIVE

cap·i·tal·is·m /'kæpɪtl-ɪzəm/ *n* [U] a system of production and trade based on the private ownership of wealth, free buying and selling, and little industrial activity by the government —compare COMMUNISM, SOCIALISM

cap·i·tal·ist[1] /'kæpɪtl-ɪst/ *n often derog* **1** a person who supports capitalism **2** a person who owns or controls much wealth (CAPITAL) and esp. who lends it to businesses, banks, etc., to produce more wealth

capitalist[2] also **cap·i·tal·is·tic** /ˌkæpɪtl'ɪstɪk◂/– *adj* **1** *often derog* owning or controlling a large amount of wealth: *the capitalist class* **2** practising or supporting capitalism: *the capitalist countries of the West* | *a capitalist economy* | *the capitalist press* (=newspapers)

cap·i·tal·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /'kæpɪtl-aɪz/ *v* [T] **1** to write with a CAPITAL[2] (2) letter **2** to supply money to (a firm) to allow it to operate: *The bank has promised to capitalize our new business.* | *The company is seriously undercapitalized.* (=does not have enough capital to operate effectively) **3** [(**at**)] *tech* to calculate the value of (a business), based on the value of its shares or its earnings —**-ization** /ˌkæpɪtl-aɪ'zeɪʃən‖-ə'zeɪ-/ *n* [S;U] : *(a) capitalization of £50 million*

capitalize on sthg. *phr v* [T] to use to one's advantage: *She capitalized on his mistake and won the game.*

capital lev·y /ˌ··· '··/ *n BrE* a tax on private or industrial wealth (CAPITAL) paid to the government, usu. in addition to income tax

capital pun·ish·ment /ˌ··· '···/ *n* [U] punishment by death according to law; the death PENALTY

► CULTURAL NOTE Capital punishment is no longer used in Britain, but it is regularly discussed in parliament. Some people would like it to be reintroduced for all murderers, some for TERRORISTS, and some for those who kill policemen. Several US states use capital punishment and carry it out by a variety of methods including the electric chair, poisonous gas, and INJECTION of poison. ◄

Capital Ra·di·o /ˌ··· '···/ a radio station in London which plays popular music and has advertisements

capital trans·fer tax /ˌ··· '·· ˌ·/ *n* [C;U] (*often cap.*) *BrE* a tax paid when one receives money, either as a gift or when someone dies

cap·i·ta·tion /ˌkæpɪ'teɪʃən/ *n* a tax paid or payment made at the same fixed amount for each person

Cap·i·tol /'kæpɪtəl/ [*the*] the building in Washington where the US Congress meets, or a similar building for each particular state of the US

Cap·i·tol Hill /ˌkæpɪtəl 'hɪl/ the part of the US government which is concerned with law; the US Congress (from Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, where the law buildings are): *The President's attempt to get Congress to vote in the new bill did not go down well on Capitol Hill.*

C

ca·pit·u·late /kə'pɪtʃʊleɪt/ *v* [I (**to**)] **1** to accept defeat, usu. on agreed conditions; SURRENDER **2** to accept or agree, often unwillingly; stop opposing: *He finally capitulated and allowed his daughter to go on holiday with her friends.* —**-lation** /kə,pɪtʃʊ'leɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

ca·pon /'keɪpən‖-pɑːn, -pən/ *n* a male chicken with its sex organs removed to make it grow big and fat for eating

Ca·pone /kə'pəʊn/, **Al** /æl/ (1899–1947) an American GANGSTER (=a criminal) who was the leader of ORGANIZED CRIME in Chicago from 1925 to 1931

Al Capone



Ca·po·te /kə'pəʊti/, **Truman** (1924–84) an American writer best known for his true accounts of unusual crimes, such as *In Cold Blood*

cap·puc·ci·no /,kæpʊ'tʃiːnəʊ‖ ,kɑː-/ *n* [C;U] (a cupful of) Italian coffee made with hot milk, and with chocolate powder on top

Cap·ra /'kæprə/, **Frank** (1897–1991) an American film director best known for the films *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington* and *It's a Wonderful Life*

Ca·pri /kə'priː/ an Italian island near the city of Naples and popular with tourists

ca·price /kə'priːs/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a) sudden often foolish change of mind or behaviour, usu. without any real cause; sudden wish to have or do something; WHIM: *the caprices of spoilt children*/(fig.) *of the weather* **2** [U] a tendency to have caprices

ca·pri·cious /kə'prɪʃəs/ *adj* changing often, esp. suddenly and without good reason; not dependable; FICKLE: *He's so capricious.* | *We can't go camping while the weather is so capricious.* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

Cap·ri·corn /'kæprɪkɔːn‖-ɔːrn/ *n* **1** [U] the tenth sign of the ZODIAC, represented by a goat —see ZODIAC (USAGE) and see picture at ZODIAC **2** [C] a person born between December 23 and January 20 —see also **Tropic of Capricorn** (TROPIC)

cap·si·cum /'kæpsɪkəm/ *n* [C;U] *tech for* PEPPER[1] (2)

cap·size /kæp'saɪz‖'kæpsaɪz/ *v* [I;T] (esp. of a boat) to turn over: *The boat capsized in the storm, but luckily it didn't sink.*

cap·stan /'kæpstən/ *n* **1** a round drum-shaped machine turned by hand or some other type of power in order to wind up a rope that pulls or raises heavy objects, such as a ship's ANCHOR **2** the bar that goes round and round to drive the TAPE in a TAPE RECORDER

cap·sule /'kæpsjuːl‖-səl/ *n* **1** an outer covering containing a measured amount of medicine, the whole of which is swallowed —see picture at PILL **2** the part of a spacecraft in which the pilots live and work and from which the engine is separated when the TAKEOFF is completed

cap·tain[1] /'kæptɪn/ *n* **1** a rank in the navy, army, or US Air Force or Marines —see also GROUP CAPTAIN; see TABLE 3 and see picture at RANK **2** the person in command of a ship or aircraft: *Are we ready to sail, Captain?* – see FATHER (USAGE) **3** the leader of a team or group: *She's (the) captain of the school hockey team.* (fig.) *a captain of industry* (e.g. the owner of an important company)

captain[2] *v* [T] to be captain of; command; lead

Captain Bob /,·· '·/ see Robert MAXWELL

Captain Cook see Captain James COOK

Captain Hook /,·· '·/ a PIRATE with a metal hook instead of one hand, who appears in the story *Peter Pan* by J M Barrie —see also PETER PAN and see colour picture on page 619

Captain Kan·ga·roo /,·· ··'·/ an American television programme for children which began in 1953 and continued into the 1960s and 1970s. Captain Kangaroo was the main character and the other well-known character from the programme was Mr. Green Jeans.

cap·tion /'kæpʃən/ *n* words printed above or below a picture, newspaper article, etc., to say what it is about or give further information: *The caption under the photo said "The President greets the Japanese delegation."*

cap·tious /'kæpʃəs/ *adj fml* too ready to find fault; too CRITICAL: *a captious old lady, difficult to please* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

cap·ti·vate /'kæptɪveɪt/ *v* [T] to charm, excite, and attract: *The dancer quickly captivated her audience.* | *Venice's captivating beauty* —**-vation** /,kæptɪ'veɪʃən/ *n* [U]

cap·tive[1] /'kæptɪv/ *adj* **1** held as a prisoner, esp. in war: *We were* **held captive** *for three months.* **2** not allowed to move about freely; imprisoned: *captive animals* | *a* **captive balloon** (=one tied to the ground by a rope) | *As we were travelling in his car, we were a* **captive audience** *for his boring stories.*

captive[2] *n* a person held as a prisoner, esp. in war

cap·tiv·i·ty /kæp'tɪvɪti/ *n* [U] the state of being captive: *Many animals do not breed well in captivity.* | *The hostages were released from captivity.*

cap·tor /'kæptə^{r}/ *n usu. fml* a person who has captured someone or something: *I soon escaped from my captors.*

cap·ture[1] /'kæptʃə^{r}/ *v* [T] **1** to take (a person or animal) prisoner: *She was captured trying to escape from the country.* | (fig.) *Their daring escape has captured the imagination of the whole country.* (=filled everyone with interest and admiration) **2** to take control of (something) by force from an enemy; win; gain: *to capture a castle* | (fig.) *They captured over 60% of the votes*/*a large share of the market.* **3** to preserve in an unchanging form on film, in words, etc.: *I captured my baby daughter's first smile on film.* | *In his book he tried to capture* (=describe) *the beauty of Venice.* **4** *tech* to put into a form that can be used by a computer: *The data is captured by means of an optical scanner.*

capture[2] *n* **1** [U] the act of taking by force or of being taken by force: *He was released yesterday, six months after his capture by the terrorists.* **2** [C] something that has been taken, caught, or won by force

Cap·u·lets and Mon·ta·gues /,kæpjʊləts ənd 'mɒntəgjuːz‖ -'mɑːn-/ [*the*] the two families of the lovers Romeo and Juliet in Shakespeare's play. The families were enemies, which is why Romeo and Juliet's marriage had to be secret.

car /kɑː^{r}/ *n* **1** also **motorcar** *BrE fml* ‖ **automobile** *AmE fml*– a road vehicle with usu. four wheels which is driven by a motor and used as a means of travel for a small number of people: *She goes to work by car.* | *a car factory* | *You can't park your car here.* | *a garage that sells new and used cars* | *a car accident* **2** (*esp. in comb.*) a railway carriage: *This train has a restaurant car*/*a sleeping car.* **3** any small vehicle in which people or goods are carried, e.g. as part of a LIFT, BALLOON, AIRSHIP, etc. —see also CABLE CAR, STREETCAR

▷ USAGE When you are in control of a **car** you **drive** it, and when you direct its course you **steer** it: *She got into the car and* **drove** *(it) home.* | *She* **steered** *(the car) carefully through the narrow gap.* As a passenger you **travel by** car, but **travel** or **ride in** a particular car. At the beginning of your journey you **get into** it and at the end you **get out of** it. —see also DRIVE (USAGE), STEER (USAGE), TRANSPORT (USAGE)◁

Ca·rac·as /kə'rækəs‖-'rɑː-/ the capital of Venezuela

ca·rafe /kə'ræf, kə'rɑːf/ *n* (the amount contained in) a bottle with a wide neck for serving wine or water at meals —see picture at FLASK

car a·larm /'· ·,·/ *n* an apparatus that makes a loud warning noise when somebody tries to break into a car

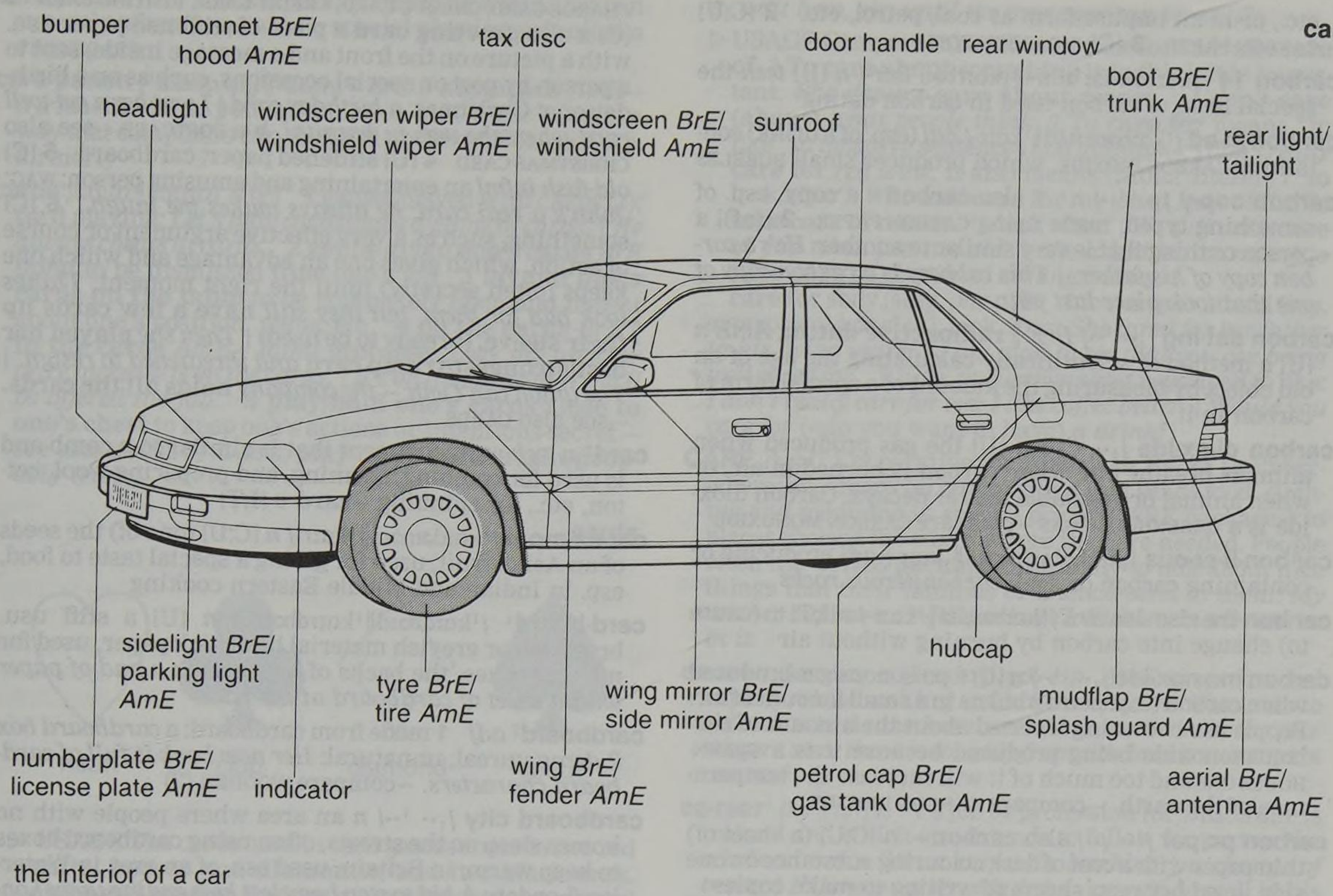
car·a·mel /'kærəməl, -mel/ *n* **1** [U] burnt sugar used for giving food a special taste and colour —see also CREME CARAMEL **2** [C;U] (a piece of) sticky boiled sugar containing this and eaten as a sweet

car·a·pace /'kærəpeɪs/ *n* a protective hard shell on the outside of certain animals, such as CRABS or TORTOISES

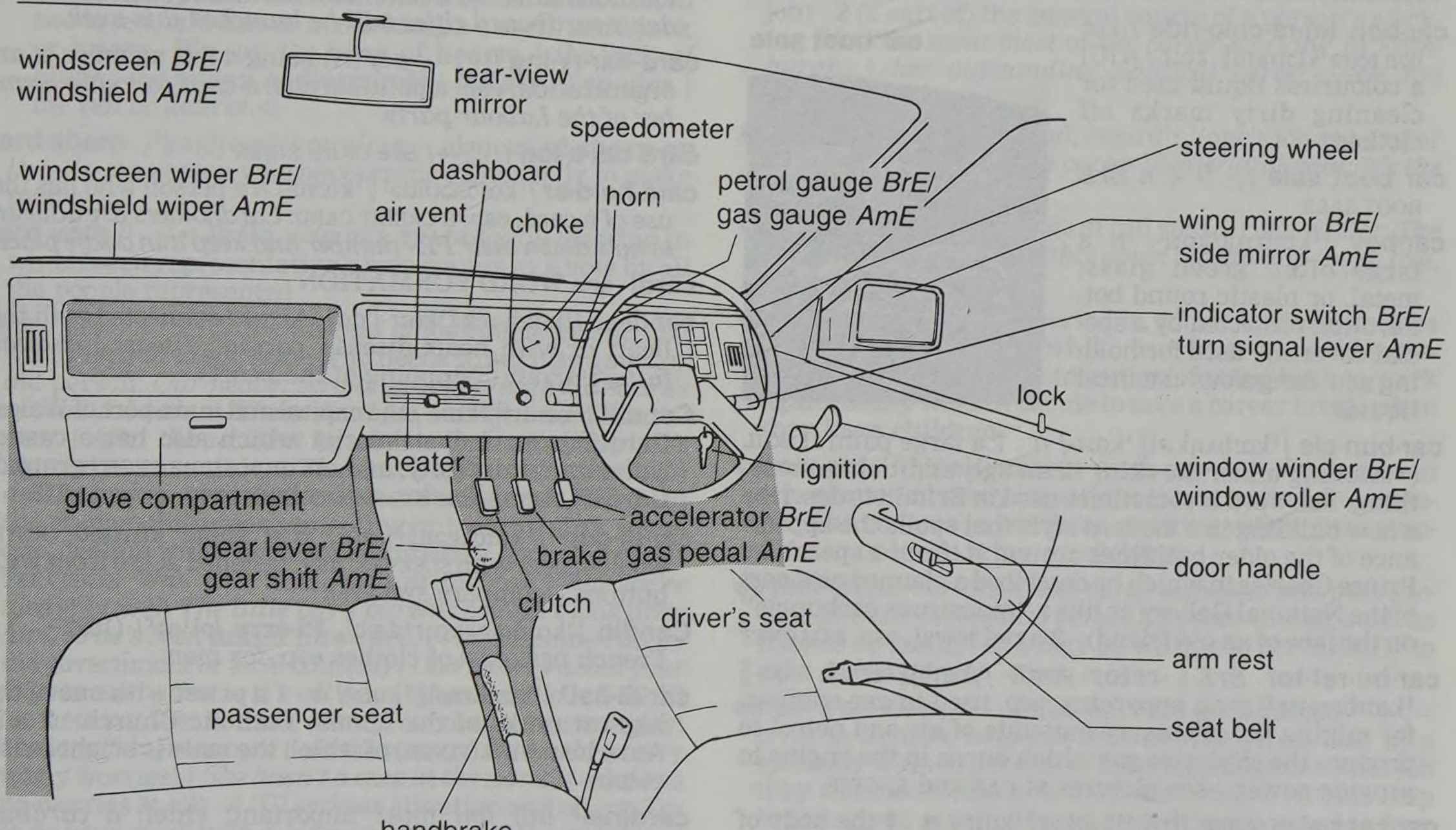
car·at also **karat** *AmE* /'kærət/ *n* **1** a division on the scale of measurement for the purity of gold: *an 18-carat gold ring* **2** a division (equal to 200 MILLIGRAMS) on the scale of measurement for the weight of jewels

car·a·van /'kærəvæn/ *n* **1** *BrE* ‖ **trailer** *AmE*– a vehicle which can be pulled by a car, which contains cooking and sleeping equipment, and in which people live (often

car



the interior of a car



on a **caravan site** *BrE* ‖ **trailer park** *AmE*) or travel, usu. for holidays —compare CAMPER (2) **2** *BrE* ‖ **wagon** *AmE*— a covered horse-drawn cart in which people such as gipsies (GIPSY) live or travel **3** [*+sing./pl. v*] (esp. in former times) a group of people with vehicles or animals travelling together for protection through unfriendly esp. desert areas: *a caravan of merchants*

car·a·van·ning /ˈkærəvænɪŋ/ *n* [U] *BrE* the practice of taking holidays in a caravan

car·a·van·se·rai /ˌkærəˈvænsəraɪ/ *n* (in Asian countries) a simple hotel with a large courtyard where CARAVANS (3) stop for the night

car·a·way /ˈkærəweɪ/ *n* a plant whose small strong-tasting seeds are used for giving a special taste to food: *bread with caraway seeds in it*

car·bine /ˈkɑːbaɪn‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* a short light RIFLE (=kind of gun)

car·bo·hy·drate /ˌkɑːbəʊˈhaɪdreɪt, -drɪt‖ˌkɑːr-/ *n* **1** [C;U] *tech* any of several substances, such as sugar, which consist of oxygen, HYDROGEN, and CARBON, and which provide the body with heat and power (ENERGY) **2** [C *usu. pl.*] *infml* foods such as rice, PASTA, bread, and potatoes which contain carbohydrates. In the 1950s and 60s people worried about carbohydrates making them fat, but now they are more concerned about milk fat, fat meat, and sugar.

car·bol·ic /kɑːˈbɒlɪk‖kɑːrˈbɑːlɪk/ *adj* coming from carbon, esp. in the form of COAL TAR: *carbolic soap*

car bomb /ˈ· ˌ·/ *n* a bomb placed in a car, esp. by TERRORISTS: *a car bomb attack on an army barracks in Ulster*

car bomb·ing /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* [C;U] (a case of) the use of a car bomb, esp. in attacks by TERRORISTS

car·bon /ˈkɑːbən‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* **1** [U] a simple substance (ELEMENT) found in a pure form as diamonds, GRAPHITE,

etc., or in an impure form as coal, petrol, etc. **2** [C;U] CARBON PAPER **3** [C] a CARBON COPY

carbon 14 /ˌkɑːbən fɔːˈtiːn◂‖ˌkɑːrbən fɔːr-/ *n* [U] *tech* the special form of carbon used in carbon dating

car·bon·at·ed /ˈkɑːbəneɪtɨd‖ˈkɑːr-/ *adj* (esp. of a drink) containing CARBON DIOXIDE, which produces small BUBBLES

carbon copy /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* **1** also **carbon**– a copy, esp. of something typed, made using CARBON PAPER **2** [**(of)**] a person or thing that is very similar to another: *He's a carbon copy of his father.* | *This robbery is a carbon copy of one that took place last year.*

carbon dat·ing /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *BrE* ‖ **radioactive dating** *AmE n* [U] a method of scientifically calculating the age of an old object by measuring the amount of a special form of carbon in it

carbon di·ox·ide /ˌ·· ·ˈ··/ *n* [U] the gas produced when animals breathe out, when carbon is burned in air, or when animal or vegetable matter decays. Carbon dioxide is a GREENHOUSE GAS –compare CARBON MONOXIDE

car·bon·if·er·ous /ˌkɑːbəˈnɪfərəs◂‖ˌkɑːr-/ *adj* producing or containing carbon or coal: *carboniferous rocks*

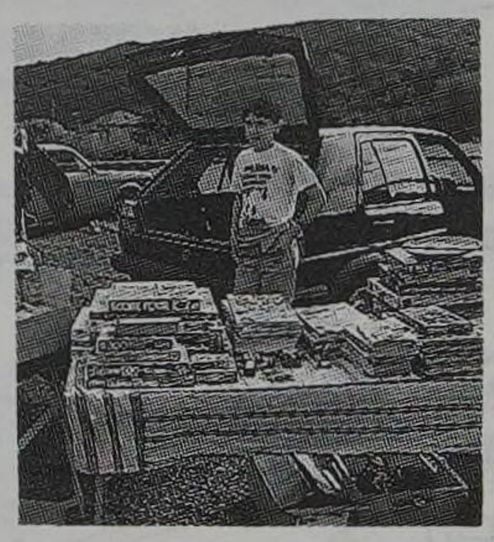
car·bon·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /ˈkɑːbənaɪz‖ˈkɑːr-/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) change into carbon by burning without air

carbon mo·nox·ide /ˌ·· ·ˈ··/ *n* [U] a poisonous gas produced when carbon (esp. petrol) burns in a small amount of air. People are becoming worried about the amount of carbon monoxide being produced because it is a GREENHOUSE GAS and too much of it will increase the temperature of the earth. –compare CARBON DIOXIDE

carbon pa·per /ˈ·· ˌ··/ also **carbon**– *n* [C;U] (a sheet of) thin paper with a coat of dark colouring substance on one side, used between sheets of writing to make copies

car·bon tet·ra·chlo·ride /ˌkɑːbən tetrəˈklɔːraɪd‖ˌkɑːr-/ *n* [U] a colourless liquid used for cleaning dirty marks off clothes

car boot sale /ˌ· ˈ· ·/ *n BrE* BOOT SALE



car boot sale

car·boy /ˈkɑːbɔɪ‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* a large often green glass, metal, or plastic round bottle, often protected by a special covering, used for holding usu. dangerous chemical liquids

car·bun·cle /ˈkɑːbʌŋkəl‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* **1** a large painful BOIL (=swelling under the skin) **2** an ugly addition to something. The word is sometimes used in Britain to describe a new building in a modern style that spoils the appearance of the older buildings around it (from a speech by Prince Charles in which he described a planned new part of the National Gallery as like a "monstrous carbuncle" on the face of an old friend) **3** a red jewel, esp. a GARNET

car·bu·ret·tor *BrE* ‖ **-retor** *AmE* /ˌkɑːbjʊˈretəʳ, -bə-‖ˈkɑːrbəreɪtəʳ/ *n* an apparatus, esp. used in car engines, for mixing the necessary amounts of air and petrol to produce the explosive gas which burns in the engine to provide power –see pictures at CAR and ENGINE

car·cass also **-case** *BrE* /ˈkɑːkəs‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* **1** the body of a dead animal, esp. one which is ready to be cut up as meat **2** the decaying remains of something, such as a car or a ship: *Divers have found the carcass of a wrecked ship 100 miles from the coast.* **3** *derog sl* the body of a dead or living person

car·cin·o·gen /kɑːˈsɪnədʒən‖kɑːr- / *n med* a carcinogenic substance

car·cin·o·genic /ˌkɑːsɪnəˈdʒenɪk◂‖ˌkɑːr-/ *adj med* causing CANCER: *carcinogenic cleaning materials*

card[1] /kɑːd‖kɑːrd/ *n* **1** [C] also **playing card** *fml*– any of a set of 52 small sheets of stiffened paper marked to show their number and the class (SUIT) they belong to, and used for various games: *The players were dealt six cards each.* | *a pack of cards* | *a card table* | *to shuffle the cards* (=mix them up) –see also COURT CARD; see CARDS (USAGE) **2** [C] (*often in comb.*) a small sheet of stiffened paper (or plastic), usu. with information printed on it and having various uses: *a bank card* | *a membership card* | *Let me give you my business card.* –see also CASH CARD, CHARGE CARD, CHEQUE CARD, CREDIT CARD, VISITING CARD **3** [C] **a** also **greeting card** a piece of stiffened paper usu. with a picture on the front and a message inside, sent to a person by post on special occasions, such as on a birthday or at Christmas: *a birthday card* | *I sent her a get-well card when she was in hospital.* **b** a POSTCARD –see also CHRISTMAS CARD **4** [U] stiffened paper; cardboard **5** [C] *old-fash infml* an entertaining and amusing person; WAG: *John's a real card; he always makes me laugh.* **6** [C] something, such as a very effective argument or course of action, which gives one an advantage and which one keeps (often secretly) until the right moment: *Things look bad for them, but they still* **have a few cards up their sleeve.** (=ready to be used) | *Then she* **played her best/strongest/trump card** *and threatened to resign.* | *The union can't win – the company* **holds all the cards.** –see also CARDS

card[2] *n tech* an instrument that is similar to a comb and is used for combing, cleaning, and preparing wool, cotton, etc., for spinning –**card** *v* [I;T]

car·da·mom /ˈkɑːdəməm‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* [C;U] (one of) the seeds of an Asian fruit, used for giving a special taste to food, esp. in Indian and Middle Eastern cooking

card·board[1] /ˈkɑːdbɔːd‖ˈkɑːrdbɔːrd/ *n* [U] a stiff usu. brownish or greyish material like thick paper, used for making boxes, the backs of books, etc.: *a pad of paper with a sheet of cardboard at the back*

cardboard[2] *adj* **1** made from cardboard: *a cardboard box* **2** *derog* unreal; unnatural: *Her new book is full of cardboard characters.* –compare WOODEN (2)

cardboard city /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* an area where people with no homes sleep on the streets, often using cardboard boxes to keep warm; in Britain, used esp. of an area in Waterloo, London: *A bid to stop homeless kids ending up in London's cardboard cities will be launched this week.*

card-car·ry·ing /ˈ· ˌ···/ *adj* [A] being a full member of an organization, esp. a political one: *a card-carrying member of the Labour party*

card cat·a·log /ˈ· ˌ···/ see CARD INDEX

card·hold·er /ˈkɑːdhəʊldəʳ‖ˈkɑːrd-/ *n* a person who has the use of a card, esp. a CREDIT CARD: *Cardholders are advised to note down their PIN number and keep it in a safe place.*

cardi- see WORD FORMATION

car·di·ac /ˈkɑːdi-æk‖ˈkɑːr-/ *adj* [A] *med* connected with the heart or with heart disease: *cardiac disease* | *cardiac failure/arrest* (=stopping of the heart)

Car·diff /ˈkɑːdɪf‖ˈkɑːr-/ the capital and main port of Wales. Cardiff is an industrial city which also has a castle, cathedral, university, and an important RUGBY ground, **Cardiff Arms Park.** –see colour map on page 818

car·di·gan /ˈkɑːdɪgən‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* a short knitted (KNIT) woollen coat with SLEEVES, usu. fastened at the front with buttons –compare SWEATER

Car·din /ˈkɑːdæn‖kɑːrˈdæn/, **Pi·erre** /piˈeəʳ/ (1922–) a French DESIGNER of clothes esp. for men

car·di·nal[1] /ˈkɑːdənəl‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* **1** a priest with one of the highest ranks of the Roman Catholic Church **2** a N American bird (FINCH) of which the male is bright red in colour

cardinal[2] *adj fml* most important; chief: *a cardinal error/sin* | *This is one of the cardinal rules of mountain climbing.*

cardinal[3] also **cardinal number**– *n* any of the numbers 1, 2, 3, etc. that show quantity rather than order – compare ORDINAL[2]

cardinal point /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* COMPASS POINT[1] (12)

cardinal sin /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* (in the Christian religion) one of the seven deadly SINS; pride, LUST, ENVY, anger, COVETOUSNESS, GLUTTONY, and SLOTH

cardinal vir·tue /ˌ··· ˈ··/ *n* a quality in a person that is highly respected and valued, esp. PRUDENCE, JUSTICE, TEMPERANCE, and FORTITUDE

card in·dex /ˈ· ˌ··/ *BrE* ‖ **card catalog** *AmE*– *n* (a box containing) a number of cards each carrying a particular piece of information and arranged in order, as in a library

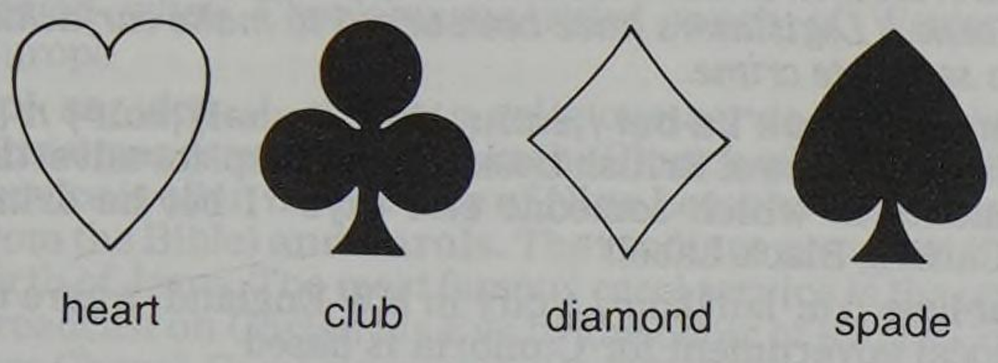
car·di·o·pul·mo·na·ry re·sus·ci·ta·tion /ˌkɑːdiəʊpʊlmənəri rɪˌsʌsɨˈteɪʃən‖ˌkɑːrdiəʊpʊlməneri-/ see CPR

card phone /ˈ· ·/ *n BrE* a public telephone which you can use only when you put in a special plastic card called a PHONECARD

card·punch /ˈkɑːdpʌntʃ‖ˈkɑːrd-/ *BrE* ‖ **keypunch** *AmE– n* a machine that puts information onto cards in such a way that computers can read and understand it, used esp. formerly

cards /kɑːdz‖kɑːrdz/ *n* [P] **1** games played with CARDS (1); card playing: *Let's play cards|have a game of cards.* | *He always cheats at cards.* **2 get/be given one's cards** *BrE infml* to be dismissed from one's job **3 lay/put one's cards on the table** to be completely open and honest about one's position, plans, etc. **4 on the cards** *BrE* ‖ **in the cards** *AmE– infml* probable: *They say another price increase is on the cards.* | *It's on the cards that she'll be offered the job.* **5 play/hold one's cards close to one's chest** to keep one's actions or intentions secret – see also HOUSE OF CARDS, **play one's cards right/properly** (PLAY)

cards



▷ USAGE The cards used in card games come in two red **suits**, **hearts** and **diamonds**; and two black ones, **clubs** and **spades**. Each **suit** has nine cards numbered two to ten, and also an **ace**, a **king**, a **queen**, and a **jack** or **knave**. We say *the* **king** *of* **hearts** | *the* **jack** *of* **clubs** | *the* **queen** *of* **diamonds** | *the* **ace** *of* **spades** | *the* **ten** *of* **hearts.**◁

card·sharp /ˈkɑːdʃɑːp‖ˈkɑːrdʃɑːrp/ also **card-sharp·er** /ˈ· ˌ··/– *n* a person who plays cards dishonestly to make money

card vote /ˈ· ·/ *n BrE* a vote at a TRADE UNION meeting in which each representative's vote counts as a vote by all the people represented

care[1] /keəʳ/ *n* **1** [U] the process of looking after and giving attention to someone who needs it, such as a sick or old person: *Our health service provides high standards of medical care.* | *These disabled children need special care.* | *After the accident he was rushed to the hospital's* **intensive care unit.** | *The article offers advice on skin and hair care.* –see also COMMUNITY CARE, DAY CARE **2** [U] the responsibility for protecting or looking after someone, dealing with a problem or difficulty, etc.; charge; SUPERVISION: *Who will* **take care of** *the dog while we're away?* | *(BrE) The little boy's parents couldn't look after him, so he's been* **taken into care.** (=into a home run by the government or local council) | *Don't worry about your flight reservation – it's all been taken care of.* **3** [C;U] (something that causes) worry, sorrow or uncertainty; anxiety: *free from care* | *all the cares of the world* (=very many worries) | *She hasn't a care in the world.* (=she has no worries at all) **4** [U] serious attention and effort: *Try to do your work with a bit more care.* **5** [U] carefulness in avoiding harm, damage, etc.; CAUTION: *Cross the road with care.* | **Take care** (=be careful) *not to drop the glass.* | *He was charged with driving* **without due care and attention.** **6** [C] *esp. fml* a person or thing for which one is responsible; object of one's special attention **7 care of** also **c/o**– (used when addressing letters to mean) at the address of: *John Smith, care of Mary Jones, 14 High Street* **8 Have a care!** *old-fash* Be more careful! –see CARE[2] (USAGE) **9 Take care!** (used as a way of saying goodbye, esp. to family and friends)

care[2] *v* [*not in progressive forms*] **1** [I (**about**); T+*wh-*; ~~*obj*~~] to be worried, anxious, or concerned (about); mind: *When his dog died Allan didn't seem to care at all.* | *The only thing he cares about is money.* | *I really care whether we win or lose.* | **As if I cared** *whether he comes or not!* (=it doesn't matter to me at all) | *I* **couldn't care less** *what you think!* | *We could be starving* **for all they care.** (=they don't care at all) –see also CARING **2** [T+*to-v*; ~~*obj*~~] (esp. in polite suggestions) to like; want: *Would you care to wait here, sir, until the manager can see you?*

▷ USAGE Compare **care (about), care for** and **take care of.** 1 To **care about** something is to think it is important: *She doesn't* **care about** *money.* | *I don't* **care (about)** *what people think.* 2 To **care for** means "to like" in negative sentences and questions: *I don't really* **care for** *red wine.* It also means (rather literary) "to look after": *Who will* **care for** *me when I am old?* 3 To **take care of** means "to look after": *We will* **take care of** *you when you are old.* | *She asked her secretary to* **take care of** *the travel arrangements.*◁

care for sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** to nurse or attend (esp. someone old or sick); look after: *She cared for her father in his dying years.* | *I am glad to see that you are being well cared for.* **2** [*usu. in questions and negatives*] to like: *I don't really care for tea; I like coffee better.* | *Would you care for* (=do you want to have) *a drink?*

CARE /keəʳ/ Cooperative for American Relief to Everywhere; an American organization that sends food, clothing and medicine in special boxes (CARE packages) to places around the world where they are needed. People often use **CARE package** informally to talk about nice things that their families or friends send to them: *My mother sent me a CARE package with homemade cookies in it.*

ca·reen /kəˈriːn/ *v* [I+*adv/prep*] *esp. AmE* to go forward rapidly while making sudden movements from side to side; LURCH: *As the bus careened down the hill, the passengers were thrown roughly from side to side.* –compare CAREER[3]

ca·reer[1] /kəˈrɪəʳ/ *n* **1** a job or profession for which one is trained and which one intends to follow for part or the whole of one's life: *a career in banking* | *a change of career* | *He's very career-minded.* (=keen to do well in his job) **2** (a part of) the general course of a person's working life: *She spent most of her career working in Edinburgh.* | *her outstanding political career* –see JOB (USAGE)

career[2] *adj* [A] professional; regarding one's job as a career for a long period: *He's a career soldier|diplomat; it's the only job he's ever done.*

career[3] *v* [I+*adv/prep*] to go at full speed; rush wildly: *The car careered uncontrollably down the hill and into a tree.* –compare CAREEN

career break /·ˈ· ˌ·/ *n* a period in which a person decides to leave their job for a while, usu. in order to do something else, but with the intention of going back to work again. Many women decide to take a career break when they have children.

career girl /·ˈ· ˌ·/ also **career wom·an** /·ˈ· ˌ··/– *n* a woman whose career is very important to her, so that, for example, she chooses to continue working rather than stopping in order to bring up children

ca·reer·ist /kəˈrɪərɪst/ *n usu. derog* someone who puts success in their profession before all other things, such as friends or family, and may be willing to act unfairly to gain advancement **–-ism** *n* [U]

careers ad·vice /·ˈ· ·ˌ·/ also **careers guid·ance** /·ˈ· ˌ··/– *n* [U] in Britain, help and information given, usu. by a specially trained person, to help people decide what job they want to do and how they can achieve it. This help is usu. given at school or at a careers office and is free.

careers ad·vi·sor /·ˈ· ·ˌ··/ also **careers of·fic·er** /·ˈ· ˌ···/– *n* in Britain, a specially trained person whose job is to help other people decide what job they want to do and to give help and information about education, TRAINING, and careers

careers of·fice /·ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* in Britain, a place where people can go for help and advice about education, TRAINING, and careers. The careers office does not have information about particular jobs which are available, only general information about what you should do if you want to be a doctor, secretary, teacher, etc. Most towns have a careers office which provides a free service, mainly for young people who have just left school. –see also JOB CENTRE

career struc·ture /·ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* the organization of a career or profession in such a way that a person starting in it can in future expect to have opportunities to do more difficult work, take more responsibility, and earn more money: *The company offers a good career structure with the*

possibility of rapid promotion.

care·free /ˈkeəfriː‖ˈkeər-/ *adj* free from anxiety; having no worries or problems: *After finishing our exams we all felt happy and carefree.*

care·ful /ˈkeəfəl‖ˈkeər-/ *adj* **1** [(**with**)] taking care (with the intention of avoiding loss or danger); CAUTIOUS: *a careful driver | You should be more careful with your money.* [+*v-ing*] *Be careful crossing the road.* (=when you cross the road) [+*to-v*] *I was careful not to say anything about this to the boss.* [+(*that*)] *Be careful (that) you don't fall off the ladder.* [+*wh-*] *Be careful how you carry those glasses.* **2** showing attention to details; thorough: *a careful worker | After careful consideration, we've decided to accept their offer.* —~**ly** *adv* : *Hold this glass carefully; I don't want it broken. | a carefully planned operation* —~**ness** [U]

care la·bel /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a small piece of cloth with cleaning instructions on it sewn inside a piece of clothing

care·less /ˈkeələs‖ˈkeər-/ *adj* **1** not taking enough care; inattentive: *He's a very careless driver; he never thinks about what he's doing. | It was very careless of you to lose the documents.* **2** done without care: *This is careless work. Do it again!* **3** free from care or worry; UNCONCERNED: *She's very careless with money.* (=she spends too much) | *a careless attitude* | (fig.) *careless charm* (=natural charm) —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

car·er /ˈkeərəʳ/ *n esp. BrE* someone who stays at home and looks after a person who is old or ill

ca·ress[1] /kəˈres/ *n* a light loving touch or kiss

caress[2] *v* [T] to give a caress to: *She caressed his cheek lovingly.* | (fig.) *a picturesque fishing village, caressed by gentle breezes*

car·et /ˈkærɨt/ *n tech* the mark ʌ or ʌ used in writing and printing to show where something is to be added

care·tak·er /ˈkeəˌteɪkəʳ‖ˈkeər-/ *n* **1** also **janitor** *esp. AmE & ScotE* — a person employed to look after a school or other usu. large public building and to be responsible for small repairs, cleaning, etc. **2** a person who looks after a house or land when the owner is absent **3** *esp. AmE* a person who provides care, such as a parent, teacher, or nurse

caretaker gov·ern·ment /ˈ··· ˌ···/ *n* a government which holds office for a usu. short period between the end of one government and the appointment of a new government

care·worn /ˈkeəwɔːn‖ˈkeərwɔːrn/ *n* showing the effects of grief, worry, or anxiety: *the careworn face of the mother of a large poor family*

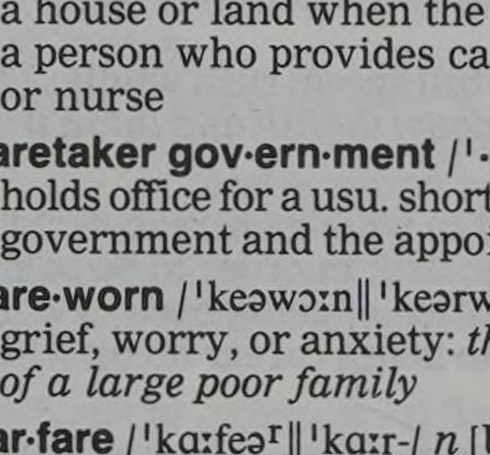
car·fare /ˈkɑːfeəʳ‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* [U] *AmE* the money (FARE) that a passenger is charged for travelling in a bus, train, etc., within a town or city: *How much is the carfare to get downtown?*

car·go /ˈkɑːgəʊ‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* **-goes** *or* **-gos** [C;U] (one load of) the goods (FREIGHT) carried by a ship, plane, or vehicle: *We sailed from Newcastle with a cargo of coal. | cargo vessel|plane*

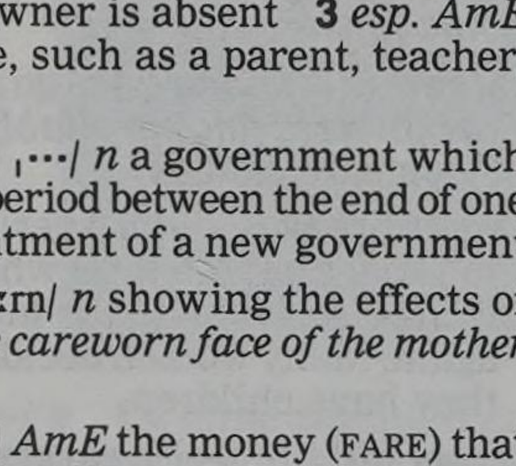
car·hop /ˈkɑːhɒp‖ˈkɑːrhɑːp/ *n AmE infml* a waiter or waitress at a DRIVE-IN restaurant

Car·ib·be·an[1] /ˌkærɨˈbiːən◂/ [*the*] **1** the islands in the Caribbean Sea **2** the area around the Caribbean Sea

caricature



portrait



caricature

Caribbean[2] *adj* of or near the Caribbean Sea or the islands there. Most black British people are of Caribbean origin.

Caribbean Sea /ˌ···· ˈ·/ **Caribbean**— [*the*] the sea between Central America, South America, and the Caribbean islands

car·i·bou /ˈkærɨbuː/ *n* **-bous** *or* **-bou** a N American REINDEER

car·i·ca·ture[1] /ˈkærɪkətʃʊəʳ/ *n* [C;U] (the art of making) a representation of someone, esp. in a drawing or painting or in literature, by which parts of their character or appearance are made more noticeable, odd, or amusing than they really are: *Newspapers often contain caricatures of well-known politicians. | a master of caricature.* | (fig., *derog*) *It was a caricature of a trial.* (=a very unjust trial)

caricature[2] *v* [T] to represent in caricature —**-turist** *n*

car·ies /ˈkeəriz/ *n* [U] *med* decay of the bones and esp. teeth: *dental caries*

car·ill·on /ˈkærɨljən, kəˈrɪ-‖ˈkærəljɑːn, -lən/ *n* (a tune played on) a set of bells, often in a tower, sounded by hammers controlled from a row of keys as on a piano KEYBOARD. Carillons are common in churches and public buildings in Belgium and Holland.

car·ing /ˈkeərɪŋ/ *adj* providing care and support, esp. to people who need to be looked after: *the* **caring professions,** *such as nursing and social work | Is the government seen by the voters as a caring government?*

car·jack·ing /ˈkɑːdʒækɪŋ ‖ ˈkɑːr-/ *n* [U,C] *AmE* an act of stealing a car by using force or violence towards the driver: *There have been three carjackings in the city this week. | Legislators have been urged to make carjacking a separate crime.*

Car·ling Black La·bel /ˌkɑːlɪŋ blæk ˈleɪbəl‖ˌkɑːr-/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a make of British LAGER, known esp. for advertisements in which someone else says "I bet he drinks Carling Black Label!"

Car·lisle /kɑːˈlaɪl‖kɑːr-/ a city in NW England, where the local government for Cumbria is based

Carls·berg /ˈkɑːlzbɜːg‖ˈkɑːrlzbɜːrg/ *n* [C;U] *tdmk* a well-known make of beer (LAGER)

Carl·ton Club /ˈkɑːltən ˌklʌb‖ˈkɑːrl-/ [*the*] (in Britain) a gentleman's CLUB[1] (3) which has a strong association with the Conservative Party

Car·lyle /kɑːˈlaɪl‖kɑːr-/, **Thom·as** /ˈtɒməs‖ˈtɑː-/ (1795–1881) a Scottish writer on political and social subjects, who was in favour of strong government

Car·men /ˈkɑːmen‖ˈkɑːrmən/ an OPERA by the French COMPOSER Bizet, first produced in 1875

car·mine /ˈkɑːmɨn, -maɪn‖ˈkɑːr-/ *adj* deep purplish red —**carmine**

Car·na·by Street /ˈkɑːnəbi ˌstriːt‖ˈkɑːr-/ a street in London, world-famous in the 1960s for its shops selling fashionable clothes for young people

car·nage /ˈkɑːnɪdʒ‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* [U] the killing and wounding of large numbers of people or animals; SLAUGHTER: *The battlefield was a scene of terrible carnage.*

car·nal /ˈkɑːnl‖ˈkɑːrnl/ *adj* [A] *fml, usu. derog* concerning sexual desires: *carnal desires|pleasures*

car·na·tion /kɑːˈneɪʃən‖kɑːr-/ *n* (a small garden plant with) a sweet-smelling white, pink, or red flower. It is usual for the men taking part in an English wedding and the close members of the two families to wear a single carnation pinned to their jackets or dresses.

car·ne /ˈkɑːni‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* see CHILLI (3)

Car·ne·gie /kɑːˈneɪgi‖kɑːr-/, **Andrew** (1835–1919) an American industrialist and PHILANTHROPIST, who made a lot of money in the steel industry and gave most of it away before he died. Some money went to start the many public libraries around the US which bear his name, and also to Carnegie Hall.

Car·ne·gie /ˈkɑːnəgi‖ˈkɑːr-/, **Dale** the writer of *How to Win Friends and Influence People*, a book read esp. by people who want to be successful in business. A **Dale Carnegie Course**, based on ideas in the book, gives people a chance to learn and practise skills to help them to achieve their professional and personal aims.

Carnegie Hall /ˌ··· ˈ·/ a large concert hall in New York, considered by people in the arts to be the most PRESTIGIOUS place to perform in the US

car·ne·li·an /kɑːˈniːliən‖kɑːr-/ *n* a CORNELIAN

car·ney also **carnie**— /ˈkɑːni‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n AmE* a person who works in a CARNIVAL (2); such people are often gypsies (GYPSY) and are not well respected, esp. by the people in towns visited by the carnival

car·ni·val /ˈkɑːnɨvəl‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* **1** [C;U] (an occasion or period of) public enjoyment and merrymaking, with eating, dancing, drinking, and often processions and shows, held esp. in Roman Catholic countries in the weeks

before Lent: *carnival time in Rio de Janeiro.*

►CULTURAL NOTE Seaside towns in Britain often have a carnival in the summer, and an attractive young woman is chosen to be the **carnival queen.**◄

2 *AmE for* FUNFAIR **3** *AmE* a celebration usually held yearly by a school in which students make and operate the amusements

car·ni·vore /ˈkɑːnɪˌvɔːr‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* a flesh-eating animal: *Lions are carnivores; rabbits are not.* —compare HERBIVORE, OMNIVORE —**-vorous** /kɑːˈnɪvərəs‖kɑːr-/ *adj*

car·ob /ˈkærəb/ *n* (the beanlike fruit of) a Mediterranean tree, used instead of chocolate by people who think it is more healthy: *carob cake* (=made using carob bean flour)

car·ol[1] /ˈkærəl/ also **Christmas carol**— *n* a religious song of joy and praise sung at Christmas. There are many well-known carols, including *O Come all ye Faithful*, *Silent Night*, and *O Little Town of Bethlehem.* —see also extra information on page 215

carol[2] *v* **-ll-** *BrE* ‖ **-l-** *AmE* [I] to sing carols
carol away *phr v* [I] *BrE* to sing very cheerfully

Car·o·lin·gi·an /ˌkærəˈlɪndʒiən◂/ *adj* of or living in the period when Charlemagne ruled much of Western Europe

carol ser·vice /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a religious service in which Christmas carols are sung. In the Church of England the service is often the **Service of Nine Lessons** (=readings from the Bible) **and Carols**. The readings are about the birth of Jesus. The most famous carol service is the one broadcast on Christmas Eve by the choir of King's College Chapel, Cambridge, and called the **Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**.

carol singers



carol sing·er /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a person who sings carols
carol-sing·ing /ˈ·· ˌ··/also **car·ol·ing**/ˈkærəlɪŋˈ/ *esp.AmE* *n* [U] the practice of singing Christmas carols. At Christmas time groups of people sing carols, both indoors and outdoors, in places such as shopping centres, railway stations, and public squares. They usually collect money for a good cause, for example homeless people. Sometimes carol singers, esp. children, go along the streets from house to house, singing in front of each house and asking for money. In the US carol singers are sometimes invited into people's houses for a drink of COCOA (2) and a biscuit.

ca·rouse /kəˈraʊz/ *v* [I] *lit* to drink a lot and be noisily merry together —**-rousal** *n* [C;U]

car·ou·sel , carr- /ˌkærəˈsel/ *n* **1** *AmE for* MERRY-GO-ROUND **2** a circular moving belt on which bags, cases, etc., from a plane are placed for collection by passengers **3** a circular piece of equipment into which one puts the SLIDES (=small pieces of film in frames) for showing on one kind of SLIDE PROJECTOR (=machine for showing slides)

carp[1] /kɑːp‖kɑːrp/ *v* [I (ON, **about, at**)] *derog infml* to find fault and complain continuously and unnecessarily: *carping criticism | I wish you'd stop carping (on) about the way I dress.*

carp[2] *n* **carp** *or* **carps** a large FRESHWATER fish that lives in lakes, pools, and slow-moving rivers and can be eaten. Carp is not commonly eaten in Britain or the US, where it is regarded as unclean because it feeds at the bottom of rivers.

car park /ˈ· ·/ *n esp. BrE* **1 parking lot** *AmE*— an open space where cars and other vehicles may be parked, sometimes for a small payment **2 parking garage** *AmE*— an enclosed building used for this purpose: *I parked on the third floor of a multistorey car park.* (=one with many floors) —see PARKING (USAGE)

car·pen·ter /ˈkɑːpəntəʳ‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* a person who is skilled at making and repairing wooden objects, esp. one who does this as a job —compare JOINER (1)

car·pen·try /ˈkɑːpəntri‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* [U] the art or work of a carpenter —compare JOINERY

car·pet[1] /ˈkɑːpɪt‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a shaped piece of) heavy woven often woollen material for covering floors or stairs. Many homes have carpets from wall to wall (=**fitted carpets** *BrE* ‖ **wall-to-wall carpet** *AmE*) in all the main rooms, and a stair carpet going up the stairs: *a beautiful Persian carpet | a stair carpet | some bits of old carpet* —compare RUG —see picture at LIVING ROOM **2** [C (**of**)] anything which covers the ground like this: *a carpet of flowers/snow* —see also MAGIC CARPET, RED CARPET, **sweep something under the carpet** (SWEEP[1])

carpet[2] *v* [T] **1** to cover (as if) with a carpet: *a carpeted waiting room* **2** *infml, esp. BrE* to blame for bad work, foolish behaviour, etc.; REPRIMAND: *He was carpeted by the boss for failing to win the contract.*

car·pet·bag·ger /ˈkɑːpɪtˌbægəʳ‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n derog* a person from one area who tries to take an active part in the political life of another area, esp., in the US, a Northerner who was politically active in the South in the 1860s and 1870s in order to gain from the situation rather than to help people in the South

carpet bomb /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *v* [T] to drop many bombs over (a small area), so that nearly everything in that area is destroyed: *Planes carpet bombed Dresden in World War II and the city was devastated.*

car·pet·ing /ˈkɑːpɪtɪŋ‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* [U] heavy woven material for making carpets

carpet slip·per /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a SLIPPER

carpet sweep·er /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a nonelectric machine for sweeping carpets —compare VACUUM CLEANER

car phone /ˈ· ·/ *n* a telephone for use in a car

car pool /ˈ· ·/ *n* **1** an agreement made by a number of car owners to take turns driving each other to work, school, etc. **2** *esp. BrE* a number of cars owned by a company or other organization for the use of its members

car·port /ˈkɑːpɔːt‖ˈkɑːrpɔːrt/ *n* a shelter for a car, with only a roof and one or two sides, often built against a side of a house —compare GARAGE[1] (1)

Car·raun·too·hill /ˌkærənˈtuːəl/ a mountain in the SW of the Republic of Ireland

car·rel /ˈkærəl/ *n AmE* a small enclosed space for studying in a library

car·riage /ˈkærɪdʒ/ *n* **1** [C] a wheeled vehicle, esp. a private horse-drawn vehicle —see also PRAM **2** [C] *BrE* ‖ **car** *AmE*— a railway passenger vehicle: *I'll be sitting in the third carriage from the front of the train.* **3** [U] *BrE* (the cost of) the moving of goods from one place to another: *The price includes carriage. | to send goods* **carriage forward** (=with the cost of moving them to be paid by the receiver) | *to send goods* **carriage paid/free** (=with the cost already paid by the sender) **4** [C] a wheeled support for moving a heavy object, esp. a gun **5** [C] a movable part of a machine: *The carriage of a typewriter holds and moves the paper.* —see picture at TYPEWRITER **6** [S;U] *fml* the way a person holds and moves their head and body; DEPORTMENT

carriage clock /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n BrE* a small clock in a BRASS case, usu. with glass front, back, and sides, with a handle on top —see picture at CLOCK

car·riage·way /ˈkærɪdʒweɪ/ *n BrE* the part of a road's surface on which vehicles travel —see also DUAL CARRIAGEWAY

car·ri·er /ˈkæriəʳ/ *n* **1** *BrE* a carrier bag **2** a person or thing that carries, esp. a business that carries goods or passengers from one place to another for payment: *This airline is one of America's biggest international carriers.* **3** *med* a person or thing that passes diseases to others without actually suffering from the disease **4** a military vehicle or ship which carries soldiers, planes, weapons,

etc., esp. an AIRCRAFT CARRIER: *an armoured personnel carrier* **5** a usu. metal frame fixed to a vehicle (e.g. a bicycle) to hold bags, goods, etc.

carrier bag /ˈ··· ·/ also **carrier** *BrE* ‖ **shopping bag** *AmE*– *n esp. BrE* a strong paper or plastic bag with handles into which goods are placed in a shop so that the customer can take them away

carrier pi·geon /ˈ··· ˌ··/ also **homing pigeon**– *n* a PIGEON (a type of bird) that has been trained to carry messages from one place to another

Car·ring·ton /ˈkærɪŋtən/, **Lord (Peter)** (1919–) a British Conservative politician, who held the positions of DEFENCE SECRETARY and FOREIGN SECRETARY, helping Zimbabwe to become independent. He resigned (RESIGN) during the Falklands war, and was SECRETARY-GENERAL of NATO from 1984 to 1988.

car·ri·on /ˈkæriən/ *n* [U] dead and decaying flesh: *Some birds feed on carrion.*

Car·roll /ˈkærəl/, **Lewis** (1832–98) an English writer who wrote two well-known children's stories, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*. His real name was **Charles Dodgson.**

car·rot /ˈkærət/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a plant with) a long thick orange pointed root eaten as a vegetable. People sometimes say that carrots help one to see in the dark if one eats a lot of them: *Have some more carrots.* | *carrot soup* | *We grow carrots in our garden.* –see picture at VEGETABLE **2** [C] *infml* a promised reward or advantage for doing something, esp. offered as a way of persuading someone (from the idea that one can encourage a DONKEY to move by putting a carrot in front of it): *They are trying to persuade the staff to accept the new machinery by* **dangling** (=offering) **the carrot** *of higher pay.* | *Their method of negotiating is a combination of* **the carrot and the stick.** (=promises and threats)

carrot-top /ˈ·· ·/ *n infml* a person with red hair

car·rot·y /ˈkærəti/ *adj* (esp. of the hair) orange in colour

car·ry[1] /ˈkæri/ *v* **1** [T] to have or hold in one's arms, on one's back, etc., while moving: *She carried her baby on her back.* | *I carried the books in a strong paper bag.* | *We lifted the piano and carried it down the stairs.* –see BRING (USAGE) **2** [T] to act as the means by which (a person or thing) is moved from one place to another; TRANSPORT; CONVEY: *The railway system carries over 25% of the country's goods traffic.* | *Pipes carry oil across the desert.* | *The little boat was carried out to sea on the tide.* | (fig.) *Her outstanding ability carried her right to the top of her profession.* | *He ran out of the burning building* **as fast as his legs would carry him.** **3** [T] to pass from one person to another; spread: *Many serious diseases are carried by insects.* **4** [T] to be able to support the weight of (something) without moving or breaking: *These two pillars carry the whole roof.* **5** [T] to have with one or on one's body: *The police in Britain don't usually carry guns.* | *This is a dangerous area, so don't carry too much cash on you.* **6** [T *no pass.*] *fml* to move or hold (oneself) in a certain way: *They carry themselves like soldiers.* **7** [T] **a** to support or keep in operation, esp. by providing money: *Can the company afford to carry its loss-making overseas section until business improves?* **b** *tech* to support with food: *This field can carry up to ten cows.* **8** [T] to print or broadcast; contain: *All the newspapers carried articles about the pop star's marriage.* | *This radio station does not carry any advertising.* **9** [T] to keep a supply of (goods) for sale; STOCK[2]: *The store carries a good range of sports equipment.* **10** [T] to have as a usual or necessary part or result: *All our products carry a 12-month guarantee.* | *The plan carries with it the risk of losing popular support.* | *This is a serious crime and carries a long jail sentence.* | *Her opinions* **carry (a lot of) weight** *with me.* (=influence me greatly) **11** [I] to be able to reach a certain distance: *We couldn't hear her at the back of the hall because her voice doesn't carry (very well).* | *How far does this gun carry?* (=how far will it fire?) **12** [T *usu. pass.*] to give approval to (esp. a law or plan), esp. by voting: *The motion was carried by 310 votes to 306.* | *I declare the motion carried.* **13** [T *no pass.*] to win the sympathy, support, or agreement of: *The government carried most of the country and won the election.* **14** [I;T] to put (a number) into the next upright row to the left when doing addition: *To add 9 and 5 you write down 4 and carry 1.* **15** [T] to succeed in not showing the bad effects of: *He carries his age very well.* | *He can't carry his drink.* (=can't drink much alcohol without getting drunk) **16 carry all/everything before one** to be completely successful; win a complete victory **17 carry a torch for** to be in love with (esp. someone who does not return the love) **18 carry a tune** to sing correctly: *He couldn't carry a tune in a bucket!* **19 carry** something **too far** to do something for too long or to too great a degree: *She carried the joke too far.* **20 carry the can** *BrE infml* to take the blame; be responsible **21 carry the day** to win; be completely successful –see also CASH AND CARRY

carry away *phr v* [T *usu. pass.*] to fill with strong feeling or excitement, esp. so as to cause unreasonable behaviour: *Marsha got so carried away when arguing with her husband that she hit him.* | *I got rather carried away at the clothes sale and spent far too much money.*

carry sthg. ↔ **forward/over** *phr v* [T] (when adding up accounts) to move (a total) from the bottom of an upright row of figures to the next page for further addition

carry sthg. ↔ **off** *phr v* [T] **1** to perform or do (a part, action, duty, etc.) easily and successfully: *She carried off her part in the plan with no difficulty.* | *It's a risky venture and I'm not sure they'll be able to carry it off.* **2** to win (a prize, honour, etc.): *Jean carried off all the prizes.*

carry on *phr v* **1** [I (**with**);T (=**carry on** sthg.)] to continue, esp. in spite of an interruption or difficulties: *We can carry on our discussion after lunch.* | *Carry on with your work.* [+*v-ing*] *Even after the music started they carried on talking.* **2** [I] *infml* to behave in a foolish, excited, or anxious manner: *You should have heard her carrying on when we told her the news!* | *I wish you'd stop carrying on* (=complaining) *about it.* **3** [I (**with**)] *infml* to have a love affair, esp an improper one: *Did you know she's been carrying on with the milkman?* –see also CARRYING-ON, CARRY-ON

carry sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] **1** to perform or complete; CONDUCT: *Our planes carried out a bombing raid on enemy targets.* | *They are carrying out urgent repairs.* | *An investigation into the cause of the crash will be carried out by the Department of Transport.* **2** to fulfil (a promise, duty, etc.): *They have failed to carry out their obligations/their orders.* | *to carry out a threat* –see also CARRYOUT

carry over sthg ↔ *phr v* [T] to CARRY **forward** –see also CARRY-OVER

carry through *phr v* **1** [T] (**carry** sbdy. **through** (sthg.)) to help (someone) to continue in an effective way during (an illness, difficult period, etc.); SUSTAIN: *His strong determination carried him through (his illness).* **2** [T] (**carry** sthg. ↔ **through**) to bring to a successful end; ACCOMPLISH: *Despite powerful opposition, they managed to carry their reforms through.*

carry[2] *n* [C;U] the distance an object will travel or has travelled after being fired, thrown, or hit: *a golf drive with a carry of 300 yards*

car·ry·all /ˈkæri-ɔːl/ *n esp. AmE* a large usu. soft bag or case; HOLDALL

car·ry·cot /ˈkærikɒt‖-kɑːt/ *esp.BrE* also **portacrib** *AmE tdmk*– *n* a small boxlike container with handles in which a baby lies and can be carried –see picture at BED

carrying charge /ˈ··· ˌ·/ *n esp. AmE* money added to the price of things bought by INSTALLMENT PLAN

carrying-on /ˌ··· ˈ·/ also **carryings-on** *pl.*– *n* [U] *infml* **1** foolish, excited, or immoral behaviour: *The police were called in to investigate the scandalous carryings-on.* **2** the activity of one person having an improper love affair with another –see also CARRY **on**

carry-on /ˈ·· ·/ *n* [S] *infml, esp. BrE* a piece of silly usu. annoying behaviour; FUSS –see also CARRY **on**

Carry On films /ˌ·· ˈ· ˌ·/ *n* one of a group of British COMEDY films made esp. in the 1960s and 70s and full of rude jokes about sex and bodily processes. The films have titles like *Carry On Nurse* and *Carry On Columbus* –see colour picture on page 553

car·ry·out /ˈkæri-aʊt/ *adj, n AmE & ScotE for* TAKE-AWAY

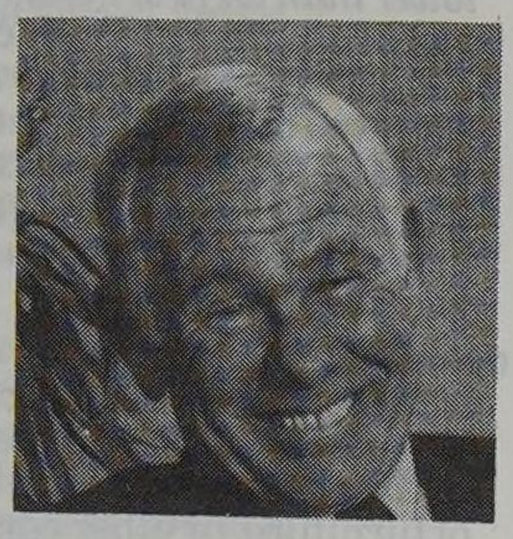
carry-o·ver /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] **1** a total that is carried forward (CARRY **forward**) **2** [(**from**)] something that is left from an earlier time or situation; REMNANT: *These regulations are a carry-over from restrictions that were imposed during wartime.* –see also CARRY **over**

car·sick /ˈkɑːˌsɪk‖ˈkɑːr-/ *adj* sick because of the movement of a car – ~**ness** *n* [U]

Car·son[1] /ˈkɑːsən‖ˈkɑːr-/, **Chris·to·pher,** /ˈkrɪstəfəʳ/ **(Kit)** (1809–68) an American fur trapper who guided many trips in the Rocky Mountains and took thousands of Native Americans as prisoners. Carson City in the US is named after him.

Carson[2], **John·ny** /ˈdʒɒni‖ˈdʒɑː-/ (1925–) an American COMEDIAN and television performer who presented *The Tonight Show* from 1962 to 1992. Carson was always introduced with the words "Here's Johnny!" and then gave a long speech which was funny and often about current events, esp. political ones.

Johnny Carson



Carson[3], **Ra·chel** /ˈreɪtʃəl/ (1907–64) an American scientist who was very concerned about the effects of POLLUTION on the environment. Her book *Silent Spring* brought attention to the use of dangerous chemicals in farming.

Carson[4], **Violet** (1905–83) an English actress probably best remembered as the character Ena Sharples in the long-running television SERIES *Coronation Street* –see also Ena SHARPLES

car stick·er /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a piece of paper or plastic made to stick on a car window; car stickers usually have advertisements, jokes, or opinions on them –compare BUMPER STICKER

cart[1] /kɑːt‖kɑːrt/ *n* **1** a two-wheeled or four-wheeled vehicle pulled by an animal, esp. a horse, or pulled or pushed by hand, and used in farming or for carrying goods –see also APPLE CART **2 in the cart** *sl, esp. BrE* in an awkward or difficult position **3 put the cart before the horse** to do or put things in the wrong order: *You're putting the cart before the horse by buying all this furniture before you've got the house.* **4** *AmE for* TROLLEY

cart[2] *v* [T] **1** to carry (as if) in a cart: *Cart all this rubble away.* **2** [+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] *infml* to take or remove, often disrespectfully, carelessly, or using force: *The demonstrators were carted off to jail by the police.* | *She carts the kids around with her wherever she goes.*

car tax /ˈ· ·/ *n* [C;U] ROAD TAX

carte blanche /ˌkɑːt ˈblɑːnʃ‖ˌkɑːrt-/ *n* [U] full freedom, esp. to make decisions or spend money: [+*to-v*] *I was given carte blanche to reorganize the department.*

car·tel /kɑːˈtel‖kɑːr-/ *n often derog* a group of independent, often international companies who agree to fix prices to limit competition so that they can increase their profits. In Britain and the US it is illegal to form a cartel.

cart·er /ˈkɑːtəʳ‖ˈkɑːr-/ *BrE old use n* a person whose job is driving carts

Carter, Jimmy (1924–) the president of the US from 1977 to 1981. Carter helped Egypt and Israel form a peace treaty which is usu. called the **Camp David agreement**. Before becoming president he helped run his family's business, a PEANUT farm, and was the governor of Georgia.

Car·thage /ˈkɑːθɪdʒ‖ˈkɑːr-/ an ancient city on the N coast of Africa, near the modern city of Tunis

cart·horse /ˈkɑːthɔːs‖ˈkɑːrthɔːrs/ *n* a large powerful horse, esp. used for heavy work and pulling carts

Car·ti·er /ˈkɑːtieɪ‖ˈkɑːr-/ a fashionable jewellery shop with branches in large cities in many countries, well-known for very expensive watches: *a Cartier watch*

car·ti·lage /ˈkɑːtl̩ɪdʒ‖ˈkɑːrtəlɪdʒ/ *n* [C;U] (a piece of) strong elastic substance found instead of bone in young animals and, esp. round the joints, in older animals –compare GRISTLE –**laginous** /ˌkɑːtl̩ˈlædʒənəs◂‖ˌkɑːrtəlˈæ-/ *adj*

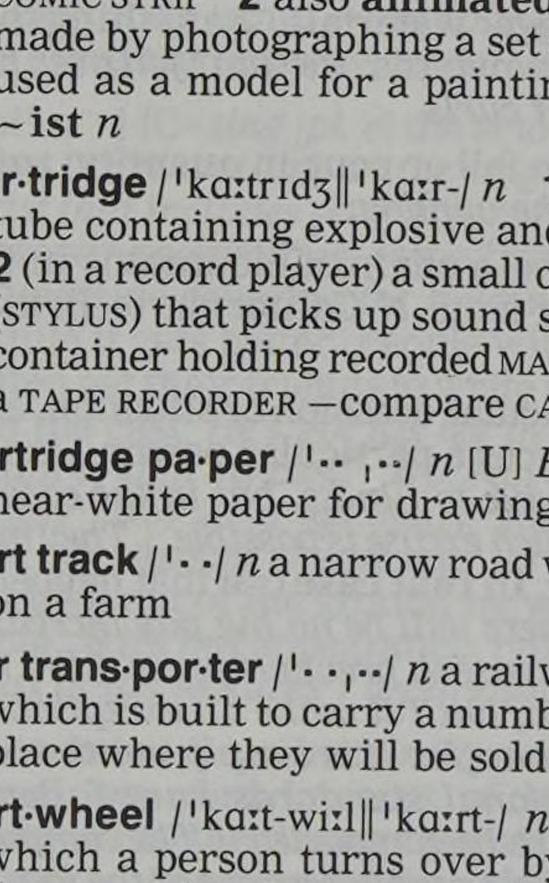
Cart·land /ˈkɑːtlənd‖ˈkɑːrt-/, **Dame Bar·ba·ra** /ˈbɑːbərə‖ˈbɑːr-/ (1904–) a very popular English writer who has written hundreds of NOVELS about love and ROMANCE: *He could have come straight out of the pages of a Barbara Cartland novel.*

cart·load /ˈkɑːtləʊd‖ˈkɑːrt-/ *n* the quantity that a cart can hold: *by the cartload* (=in great numbers)

car·tog·ra·phy /kɑːˈtɒgrəfi‖kɑːrˈtɑː-/ *n* [U] the science or art of making maps –**-pher** *n*

car·ton /ˈkɑːtn‖ˈkɑːrtn/ *n* **1** a box made from stiff paper (CARDBOARD) or plastic, used for holding goods: *a carton of cream* **2** *AmE* (*often comb.*) a container holding a certain amount or number of goods: *carton of cigarettes* (=10 packs of 20 cigarettes) | *milk carton*/*carton of milk*

cartoon



"Why do you always bring that elephant gun when we go out?"

car·toon /kɑːˈtuːn‖kɑːr-/ *n* **1** a humorous drawing, often dealing in a clever and amusing way with something of interest in the news, usu. with a CAPTION –compare COMIC STRIP **2** also **animated cartoon**– a cinema film made by photographing a set of drawings **3** a drawing used as a model for a painting or other work of art –**~ist** *n*

car·tridge /ˈkɑːtrɪdʒ‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* **1** a metal, paper, or plastic tube containing explosive and a bullet for use in a gun **2** (in a record player) a small case containing the needle (STYLUS) that picks up sound signals from a record **3** a container holding recorded MAGNETIC TAPE used esp. with a TAPE RECORDER –compare CASSETTE (1)

cartridge pa·per /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [U] *BrE* strong thick white or near-white paper for drawing on

cart track /ˈ· ·/ *n* a narrow road with a rough surface, usu. on a farm

car trans·por·ter /ˈ· ·ˌ··/ *n* a railway vehicle or large LORRY which is built to carry a number of usu. new cars to the place where they will be sold

cart·wheel /ˈkɑːt-wiːl‖ˈkɑːrt-/ *n* a circular movement in which a person turns over by putting their hands on the ground and moving their legs sideways in the air: *Jean learned to* **turn cartwheels** *at school.* –compare SOMERSAULT –**cartwheel** *v* [I]

Cart·wright /ˈkɑːtraɪt‖ˈkɑːr-/, **Ed·mund** /ˈedmənd/ (1743–1823) an English inventor of machines used in weaving and the woollen industry

Barbara Cartland



Ca·ru·so /kəˈruːsəʊ/, **En·ri·co** /enˈriːkəʊ/ (1873–1921) an Italian OPERA singer who was very popular among ordinary people

carve /kɑːv‖kɑːrv/ *v* **1** [T] to cut (usu. wood or stone) into a special shape or make (something) by cutting wood or stone: *He carved the wood into the shape of a bird.* | *They carved their initials on the tree.* | *The statue is carved out of marble.* –compare SCULPTURE[2] (2) **2** [I;T] to cut (cooked meat) into pieces or cut (pieces) from cooked meat, esp. at a meal: *Shall I carve you another slice of turkey?* **3** [T (OUT)] to make or gain (esp. a position or advantage) by long effort: *She has carved (out) a career for herself*/*a niche for herself as a comic actress.*

▷ USAGE You can **carve** wood or stone **into** a shape; **carve (out)** a shape **from, in,** or **out of** wood or stone; or **carve** words, etc., **on** a wooden or stone surface.◁

carve sbdy./sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] **1** *usu. derog* to

divide, esp. in a way favourable to oneself: *They carved up the profits between themselves.* **2** sl to wound (someone) with a knife **3** *BrE sl* (of a motorist) to go past (another vehicle) and drive in front of it too soon

carv·er /ˈkɑːvəʳ‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* **1** a person who carves **2** a CARVING KNIFE

Carver, George Washington (1864–1943) an American inventor, born of slave parents, and remembered for discovering many uses for the PEANUT and sweet potato

car·ve·ry /ˈkɑːvəri‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* (part of) a restaurant that mainly serves roasted (ROAST) meats

carve-up /ˈ· ·/ *n* the division of something between people, usu. to their advantage: *the carve-up of Germany after the Second World War*

carv·ing /ˈkɑːvɪŋ‖ˈkɑːr-/ *n* **1** [C] something made by carving **2** [U] the work, art, or skill of a carver

carving fork /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a large fork used to hold meat in place for cutting with a carving knife

carving knife /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a long sharp knife used for cutting up large pieces of meat

car wash /ˈ· ·/ *n* a special piece of equipment into which one drives one's car for it to be washed

car·y·at·id /ˌkæriˈætɨd/ *n tech* a PILLAR (=support for a building) shaped like a clothed female figure

Cas·a·blan·ca /ˌkæsəˈblæŋkə‖ˌkɑːsəˈblɑː-/ **1** the largest city in Morocco, on the Atlantic coast **2** an American ROMANTIC film made in 1942 with Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman. The story takes place in the city of Casablanca. –see picture on page 685

Cas·a·no·va /ˌkæsəˈnəʊvə/ *n infml, often derog* a man who has (or claims to have) a lot of female lovers (from **Giacomo Casanova** (1725–98), an Italian man famous because he claimed to have had sex with very many women)

cas·bah /ˈkæzbɑː/ *n* an ancient walled (usually Arab) city

cas·cade[1] /kæˈskeɪd/ *n* **1** a steep high usu. small waterfall, esp. one part of a bigger waterfall **2** anything that seems to pour or flow downwards: *Her hair fell over her shoulders in a cascade of curls.*

cascade[2] *v* [I+*adv/prep*] to fall or pour in quantity: *rainwater cascading down the window*

Cascade Range /·ˈ· ˌ·/ [*the*] a chain of mountains in the W of the US, stretching from N California to British Columbia

case[1] /keɪs/ *n* **1** [C] a particular occasion or situation, esp. as it concerns or influences a particular person: *Jane's bad results were partly due to illness, but in the case of John/in John's case, no such excuse is possible.* | *They may not offer me much money.* **In that case** (=if that happens) *I won't take the job.* | *There will be no big pay increases this year, as has been the case in previous years.* | *I'm not supposed to let anyone in, but I'll make an exception* **in your case.** **2** [C] an example: *It is simply not the case* (=not true) *that educational standards have fallen.* | *Several cases of fever have been reported.* | *The company are losing some of their best people because of the low salaries – the resignation of the sales director is* **a case in point.** (=a clear or typical example) | *House prices have gone up by over 10%, in some cases by almost 20%.* | *We don't really want to sell the car, but* **it's a case of** *having to.* (=we have no choice) | *The government's by-election defeat is* **a classic case of** *mid-term unpopularity.* **3** [C] a set of events needing inquiry or action by the police or a similar body: *a case of robbery with violence* | *Police are working on/investigating the case.* **4** [C] a question to be decided in a court of law: *My case against the local council will be heard* (=judged) *today.* | *He sued the newspaper for libel, but lost the case.* **5** [C (**for, against**) *usu. sing.*] all the facts and arguments that support the opinions or claims of one side in a disagreement, legal question, etc.: *the case for the defence* | *a key piece of evidence in the prosecution's case* | *The police have a clear case against the prisoner.* | *She* **made out a good case** *for* (=gave good arguments for) *lowering our prices.* | *The case for the opposition will be put* (=explained) *by Mr Steel.* **6** [C;U] (in grammar) (changes in) the form of a word (esp. of a noun, adjective, or PRONOUN) showing its relationship with other words in a sentence: *"Me" is the object case of "I".* | *"Mine" is the possessive case of "I".* –see also LOWER CASE, UPPER CASE **7** [C] **a** a person having medical treatment or being dealt with by the police, someone doing SOCIAL WORK, etc.: *The doctor has several cases to see this morning.* | *a hopeless case* **b** a person who is difficult to deal with: *I don't know what to do about him, he's a real case.* –see also BASKET CASE, NUT CASE **8 in any case** no matter what happens: *The cost may be lower than we first thought, but in any case it will still be quite substantial.* **9 in case of** if or when (something) happens: *In case of fire, ring the bell.* **10 (just) in case** **a** so as to be safe if (something happens): *Take your coat in case it rains/(just) in case it should rain.* | *I'll cook plenty of potatoes just in case (they decide to stay for dinner).* **b** *esp. AmE* if: *In case they're late, we can always sit in the bar.*

case[2] *n* **1** a large box or container, in which goods can be stored or moved: *a packing case* | *a case of whisky* (=12 bottles) | *The porter will carry your cases* (=SUITCASES) *up to your room.* –see picture at CONTAINER **2** a box, piece of furniture, or other container for holding and protecting something: *a jewel case* | *a bookcase* | *a pillowcase* – see also LOWER CASE, UPPER CASE

case[3] *v* [T] *sl* to examine, esp. with the intention of robbing: *The thief was* **casing the joint.** (=examining the place he intended to rob)

case his·tory /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* a record of the past history of someone suffering from an illness, social difficulties, etc.

case·load /ˈkeɪsləʊd/ *n* the group of cases[1] (7a) that a doctor, SOCIAL WORKER, etc. deals with regularly: *My caseload is really high* (=I have a lot of cases to deal with).

case·ment win·dow /ˌkeɪsmənt ˈwɪndəʊ/ also **casement**– *n* a window that opens like a door, by means of HINGES along one side –compare SASH WINDOW

case stud·y /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a detailed study of a person or group, esp. in order to learn about their social development and relationship with other people in society

case·work /ˈkeɪswɜːk‖-wɜːrk/ *n* [U] SOCIAL WORK concerned with direct consideration of the problems of a particular person, family, etc. – **~er** *n*

cash[1] /kæʃ/ *n* [U] **1** money in the form of coins and notes, rather than cheques, CREDIT CARDS, etc.: *to pay in cash* | *I haven't any cash on me – can I pay by cheque?* | *We don't accept cheques – we only take* **hard cash** (=notes and coins)/*you have to pay* **cash down.** (=at once) **2** *infml* money in any form: *The company is a bit short of cash at the moment.* **3 cash on delivery** see COD –see also PETTY CASH; see MONEY (USAGE)

cash[2] *v* [T] to exchange (a cheque or other order to pay) for cash: *Can you cash these traveller's cheques for me?* | *Where can I get this cashed?*

cash in *phr v* **1** [I (**on**)] to take full advantage or profit (from): *The company cashed in on its rival's difficulties by doubling production.* **2** [T] to exchange (documents, etc.) for cash: *When are you going to cash in those certificates?* | *He cashed in his chips at the end of the game.*

Cash, John·ny /ˈdʒɒniˈdʒɑː-/ (1932–) an American COUNTRY AND WESTERN singer, known for songs such as *I Walk the Line* and *A Boy Named Sue*

cash and car·ry /ˌ· · ˈ··/ *n* [often *the*] a shop where goods are sold at low prices if they are bought in large quantities, paid for at once, and taken away by the buyer

cash·book /ˈkæʃbʊk/ *n* a book in which a record is kept of money received and paid out

cash card /ˈ· ·/ *n* a special plastic card used for obtaining money from a cash dispenser

cash crop /ˈ· ·/ *n* a crop grown for sale rather than for use by the grower –compare CATCH CROP, SUBSISTENCE CROP

cash desk /ˈ· ·/ *n* the desk in a shop where payments are made

cash dis·count /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* an amount by which the seller reduces the price when the buyer pays with notes or coins and not by cheque or CREDIT CARD

cash dis·pens·er /ˈ· ·ˌ··/ also **ATM**– *n esp. BrE* a machine, esp. one placed outside a bank, from which customers can obtain money at any time by putting in a cash card and pressing numbered keys to give a special number

ca·shew /ˈkæʃuː, kəˈʃuː/ *n* (a tropical American tree that produces) a small curved nut –see picture at NUT

cash flow /ˈ· ·/ *n* [S;U] the flow of money into a business (as income) and out of a business (for wages, materials,

etc.): *Despite difficult trading conditions, the company has maintained a healthy|positive cash flow this year.* | *cash-flow problems|crisis*

cash·ier[1] /kæˈʃɪəʳ/ *n* a person in charge of money and payments in a bank, hotel, shop, etc.

cash·ier[2] /kæˈʃɪəʳ, kə-/ *v* [T] to dismiss (esp. an officer) with dishonour from service in the armed forces

cash-in-hand /ˌ· · ˈ·◂/ *adj* (of a payment for services, etc.) given to somebody in the form of CASH so that there is no document as a record of the payment. People sometimes prefer to be paid this way as a way of avoiding paying tax: *a cash-in-hand payment* | *I'd rather have the money cash-in-hand.*

cash·less /ˈkæʃləs/ *adj* done or operating without the use of money in any physical form: *a cashless transaction, by which money is transferred automatically from the buyer's account to the seller's* | *So many people have credit cards that we are nearly a* **cashless society**.

cash ma·chine /ˈ· ·ˌ·/ *n* a CASH DISPENSER

cash·mere /ˈkæʃmɪəʳ‖ˈkæʒ-, ˈkæʃ-/ *n* [U] fine soft wool, made from a type of long-haired goat, used for making expensive clothes: *a cashmere sweater*

cash·point /ˈkæʃpɔɪnt/ *n BrE* a CASH DISPENSER: *a cashpoint card*

cash reg·is·ter /ˈ· ˌ···/ *n* a business machine used in shops for calculating and recording the amount of each sale and the money received, and sometimes for giving change

casino



cas·ing /ˈkeɪsɪŋ/ *n* a protective covering, such as the outer rubber covering of a car TYRE: *This wire has a rubber casing.*

ca·si·no /kəˈsiːnəʊ/ *n* **-nos** a place where people play cards or other games for money. In the US casinos are legal only in Atlantic City, New Jersey, and in the state of Nevada. Monte Carlo in S France is known internationally for its casino.

cask /kɑːsk‖kæsk/ *n* (the amount contained in) a barrel-shaped container, esp. a fairly small one, for holding and storing liquids: *a cask of sherry*

Casio /ˈkæziəʊ/ *tdmk* a Japanese company making watches, calculators etc.

cas·ket /ˈkɑːskɨt‖ˈkæs-/ *n* **1** a small usu. decorated box for holding jewels, letters, and other valuable things **2** *esp. AmE for* COFFIN

Cas·pi·an Sea /ˌkæspiən ˈsiː/ [*the*] a large salt-water lake between SE Europe and Asia

casque /kɑːsk‖kæsk/ *n lit or old use* a soldier's metal protective HELMET, worn in former times

Cas·san·dra /kəˈsændrə/ the daughter of Priam who, in an old Greek story, was not believed when she said that his kingdom of Troy would be seized by the enemy. Someone can be described as a Cassandra if they warn others of future misfortunes but are not believed.

Cas·satt /kəˈsæt/, **Mary** (1845–1926) an American painter who worked mostly in France with the Impressionists

cas·sa·va /kəˈsɑːvə/ also **manioc–** *n* [C;U] (flour made from the thick fleshy roots of) a tropical plant

cas·se·role /ˈkæsərəʊl/ *n* **1** [C] a deep usu. covered dish in which food can be cooked and served: *a heavy iron casserole* —see picture at PAN **2** [C;U] the food cooked in this: *(a) beef casserole*

cas·sette /kəˈset/ *n* **1** a container holding MAGNETIC TAPE, which can be fitted into a TAPE RECORDER or VIDEO — compare CARTRIDGE (3) **2** a container for photographic film which can be fitted complete into a camera

cassette play·er /·ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a TAPE RECORDER

cassette re·cord·er /·ˈ· ·ˌ··/ *n* a TAPE RECORDER

cassette tape /·ˈ· ˌ·/ *n* a cassette (1)

cas·sock /ˈkæsək/ *n* a long, heavy garment, worn by some priests and by people helping at religious services

cast[1] /kɑːst‖kæst/ *v* **cast** [T] **1** *esp. lit or old use* to throw or drop: *The fishermen cast their nets into the sea.* | *The wicked king cast his enemies into prison.* | (fig.) *The witch* **cast a spell** *on the prince and turned him into a frog.* **2** [+*obj*+*adv*|*prep*] to throw off; remove; get rid of SHED: *Every year the snake casts off its skin.* | *to cast aside one's doubts|inhibitions|former friends* **3** to turn or direct: *The evening sun cast long shadows (across the garden).* | *She cast a glance in his direction.* | *So far, the police investigation has not* **cast any light on** *her disappearance.* (=has not helped to explain it) | *Would you just* **cast an eye over** (=look through quickly) *this letter before I put it in the post?* | *These incidents must* **cast doubt on** *his suitability for government office.* **4** [(**as, in**)] to give an acting part to (a person) or choose actors for (a play): *The director cast me as a mad scientist.* | *Who is casting this play?* **5** to make (a vote) in an election: *The TV news showed the vice-president casting his vote.* **6** to make (an object) by pouring (hot metal or plastic) into a shaped container (MOULD): *to cast bronze* | *to cast a statue* **7** to calculate (a HOROSCOPE) **8 cast one's net wide** to spread one's efforts in all directions when trying to find someone or something: *If we want the best person for the job, we must cast our net as wide as possible by advertising in all the papers.* —see also **the die is cast** (DIE[2]) **9 cast pearls before swine** to say useful or nice things to people who cannot appreciate them

cast about/around for sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] to search or look for in all directions

cast sbdy. ↔ **away** *phr v* [T *usu. pass.*] to leave somewhere as the result of a shipwreck: *We were cast away on an island without food or water.* —see also CASTAWAY

cast sbdy. ↔ **down** *phr v* [T *usu. pass.*] to make sad or disappointed

cast (sthg.) ↔ **off** *phr v* [I;T] **1 a** (of a boat or ship) to be set free on the water by a rope being untied **b** to set (a boat or ship) free by untying a rope **2** to finish making a piece of KNITTING by removing (stitches) from the needle in such a way that the garment does not come undone

cast (sthg.) ↔ **on** *phr v* [I;T] to start a piece of KNITTING by putting (the first stitches) onto a needle

cast sbdy./sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T (**of**)] *esp. lit or old use* to drive out or away; EXPEL —see also OUTCAST

cast[2] *n* **1** [C+*sing.*/*pl. v*] the actors in a play, film, etc.: *The cast is|are waiting on the stage.* | *The film has a strong cast that includes several famous names.* **2** [C] an act of throwing something, esp. a fishing line **3** [C] a hard stiff protective covering for holding a broken bone in place while it gets better. People with an arm or leg in a cast often get their friends to write their names or a message on the cast: *He's got his leg in a* **plaster cast**. | *Do you want to sign my cast?* **4** [C] an object made by being cast (CAST[1] (6)) in a specially shaped container (MOULD): *plaster casts of the statues* **5** [C] a small pile of earth thrown out of the ground by worms when they make a hole **6** [S] *fml* appearance, type, or character: *the noble cast of his features* | *a philosophical cast of mind*

cas·ta·nets /ˌkæstəˈnets/ *n* [P] a musical instrument made from two round pieces of hard wood, plastic, etc., fastened to the thumb by a string and played by being knocked together by the other fingers. Castanets are thought to be typical of southern Spain and Mexico.

cast·a·way /ˈkɑːstəweɪ‖ˈkæst-/ *n* a person who escapes from a shipwreck and reaches the shore of a strange country or lonely island. The most famous castaway in English literature is Robinson Crusoe. —see also CAST **away**

caste /kɑːst‖kæst/ *n* [C;U] (any of the groups in) the system by which Indian society is divided up into different classes, according to the principles of Hinduism

cas·tel·lat·ed /ˈkæstɨleɪtɨd/ *adj tech* (of a building) having defences like a castle; made to look like a castle

cast·er, -or /ˈkɑːstəʳ‖ˈkæs-/ *n* **1** a small metal or plastic wheel fixed to the base of a piece of furniture so that it can be easily moved **2** *BrE* ‖ **shaker** *AmE* a container with small holes in the top from which sugar, salt, etc., may be evenly spread over foods

caster sug·ar, castor sugar /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *BrE* ‖ **granulated sugar** *AmE n* [U] very fine white sugar usu. used in cooking —compare GRANULATED

cast·i·gate /ˈkæstɨgeɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* **1** to punish or speak to severely **2** to express strong disapproval of (a person, behaviour, or ideas) —**-gation** /ˌkæstɨˈgeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

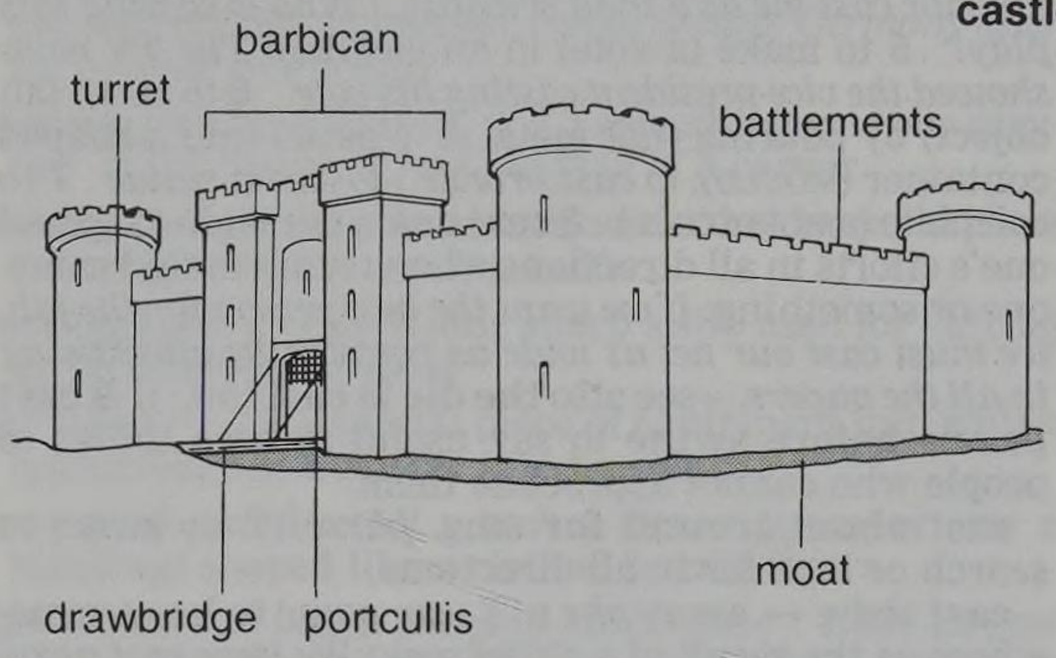
cast·ing /ˈkɑːstɪŋ‖ˈkæstɪŋ/ *n* **1** [C] an object shaped by being CAST[1] (6) **2** [U] the process of choosing actors for a play or film

casting vote /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] a deciding vote (usu. belonging to the person in charge of a meeting, committee, etc.) used when both sides have an equal number of votes

cast-i·ron /ˌ· ˈ··◂/ *adj* **1** made of cast iron **2** *infml* **a** strong or insensitive: *She has a cast-iron stomach and can eat anything.* **b** impossible to question or doubt: *a cast-iron excuse*

cast iron *n* [U] a hard but easily breakable type of iron

castle



cas·tle[1] /ˈkɑːsəl‖ˈkæ-/ *n* **1** a large strongly-built building or set of buildings made in former times as a safe place that could easily be defended against attack: *Windsor Castle* **2** also **rook**– a powerful CHESS piece –see picture at CHESS **3 castles in the air** plans, hopes, desires, etc., that will probably not become realities; DAYDREAMS

Castle How·ard /ˌkɑːsəl ˈhaʊəd‖ˌkæsəl ˈhaʊərd/ a STATELY HOME in Yorkshire

Cas·tle·maine XXXX /ˌkɑːsəlmeɪn ˌfɔːr ˈeks‖ˌkæ-/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a kind of Australian LAGER

cast-off /ˈ· ·/ *adj* [A] (esp. of clothes) unwanted by the original owner and thrown away –**castoff** /ˈkɑːstɒf‖ˈkæstɔːf/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] : *She gave her castoffs to her younger sister.* –see also HAND-ME-DOWN

cast·or /ˈkɑːstəʳ‖ˈkæs-/ *n* a CASTER

Cas·tor and Pol·lux /ˌkɑːstər ənd ˈpɒləks‖ˌkæstər ənd ˈpɑː-/ in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, TWIN (=born together) brothers and famous fighters. The arrangement of stars known as Gemini or the Heavenly Twins is supposed to be named after them.

castor oil /ˌ·· ˈ·◂/ *n* [U] a thick yellowish medicinal oil made from the **castor-oil plant** and used esp. as a LAXATIVE. Many people who are now adults were given castor oil regularly as children and remember it for its unpleasant taste.

castor sug·ar /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [U] CASTER SUGAR

cas·trate /kæˈstreɪt‖ˈkæstreɪt/ *v* [T] **1** to remove all or part of the sex organs of (a male animal or person) **2** to make (a man) lose his sense of being male –**-tration** /kæˈstreɪʃən/ *n* [U]

Cas·tro /ˈkæstrəʊ/, **Fi·del** /fɪˈdel/ (1927–) the leader of the COMMUNIST REVOLUTION, now President of Cuba

Cas·trol /ˈkæstrɒl‖-trəʊl/ a British company which produces motor oil

cas·u·al /ˈkæʒuəl/ *adj* **1** showing or feeling little interest: *His casual manner/attitude annoyed her.* | *She tried to sound casual, but her excitement was obvious.* **2** without a clear aim, plan, or intention; not serious or thorough: *I took a casual glance at the article.* | *not a real lecture, just a few casual remarks* **3** (of clothes) intended for informal situations or occasions: *casual shoes* **4** [A] **a** *esp. BrE* (of workers) employed for a short period of time: *They employ casual labour to pick the fruit.* **b** doing something only on some occasions but not regularly: *casual readers of the paper* | *casual users of the library service* **5** *now rare* resulting from chance: *a casual meeting* –~**ly** *adv* : *casually dressed* –~**ness** *n* [U]

casual sex /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* [U] the act of sex without the thought of forming a lasting relationship

cas·u·al·ty /ˈkæʒuəlti/ *n* **1** [C] a person hurt in an accident or killed or wounded in battle: *There were ten serious casualties in the train crash.* | *Their army suffered heavy casualties.* (=many of the soldiers were killed or wounded) | *She read through the casualty list anxiously.* **2** [C] a person or thing that has suffered loss or destruction as a result of a particular event: *The new school was never finished: it was a casualty of the recent spending cuts.* **3** [U] *BrE* ‖ **emergency room** *AmE* a place in a hospital where people hurt in accidents are taken for treatment: *They rushed her to casualty but she was dead on arrival.*

cas·u·ist /ˈkæʒuɪst/ *n fml derog* a person skilled in casuistry –**-istic** /ˌkæʒuˈɪstɪk◂/, **-istical** *adj* –**-istically** /kli/ *adv*

cas·u·is·try /ˈkæʒuɪstri/ *n* [U] *fml, often derog* false but clever use of arguments and reasoning, esp. when dealing with cases of conscience, law, or right and wrong behaviour

ca·sus bel·li /ˌkɑːsəs ˈbeli, ˌkeɪsəs ˈbelaɪ/ *n* **casus belli** *tech Lat* an event or political action which directly causes a declaration of war

cat /kæt/ *n* **1** a small four-legged animal with soft fur and sharp CLAWS, often kept as a pet or for catching mice and rats. A young cat is called a **kitten.** –see also MANX CAT, MIAOW, PURR

► CULTURAL NOTE People think that cats' favourite foods are milk or cream, and fish. Cats are often said to have nine lives, meaning that they often narrowly escape death. In Britain, some people believe that black cats bring good luck, but in the US they are thought to bring bad luck. ◄

2 an animal related to this, such as the lion or tiger – see also BIG CAT **3** *BrE derog* a mean unpleasant woman **4** a CAT-O'-NINE TAILS **5** *AmE* **Cat got your tongue?** (used to TEASE someone when they are expected to speak and do not) **6 let the cat out of the bag** *infml* to tell a secret, esp. unintentionally **7 like a cat on hot bricks** *BrE* ‖ **like a cat on a hot tin roof** *AmE*– *infml* very nervous or anxious and unable to keep still or keep one's attention on one thing **8 play cat and mouse with** to continually nearly catch (someone), and then allow them to escape; TEASE **9** *BrE* **put/set the cat among the pigeons** to cause trouble, esp. by doing or saying something that is unexpected or excites strong feeling **10 when the cat's away, the mice will play** *saying* when the person in authority is away, the other people will enjoy themselves –see also CAT-AND-DOG, FAT CAT, **rain cats and dogs** (RAIN[2]), **not enough room to swing a cat** (ROOM[1] (6))

cat·a·clys·m /ˈkætəklɪzəm/ *n fml* a violent and sudden event or change, esp. a serious flood or EARTHQUAKE – ~**ic** /ˌkætəˈklɪzmɪk◂/ *adj*

cat·a·comb /ˈkætəkuːm‖-kəʊm/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] an underground burial place made up of many passages and rooms

cat·a·falque /ˈkætəfælk/ *n* a decorated raised stage on which a dead body may be placed before an official funeral

cat·a·lep·sy /ˈkætəlepsi/ *n* [U] *med* an illness in which a person can no longer control movement of their body, and their limbs either become stiff as in death or else remain in whatever position they are placed –**-tic** /ˌkætəˈleptɪk◂/ *adj*

cat·a·logue[1] also **-log** *AmE* /ˈkætəlɒg‖-lɔːg, -lɑːg/ *n* a list of places, names, objects, goods, etc. (often with information about them) put in a special order so that they can be found easily: *Look in the catalogue to see whether the library has this book.* | (fig.) *the latest addition to the catalogue of terrorist crimes* | *I saw some slacks I like in the Sears catalog.*

catalogue[2] also **-log** *AmE* *v* [T] **1** to make a catalogue of (goods, objects, etc.) or list in a catalogue

ca·tal·y·sis /kəˈtælɪsɪs/ *n* [U] the process of quickening a chemical activity by adding a catalyst

cat·a·lyst /ˈkætl-ɪst/ *n* **1** a substance which, without itself changing, quickens chemical processes **2** a person, thing, or event that causes changes to happen, but without taking part in those changes: *The First World War served as a catalyst for major social changes in Europe.* –**-lytic** /ˌkætəlˈɪtɪk◂/ *adj*

catalytic con·ver·ter /ˌ···· ·ˈ··/ *n* a piece of equipment fitted to the EXHAUST PIPE of a car that reduces the amount of poisonous gas sent out into the air when the engine is running

cat·a·ma·ran /ˌkætəməˈræn/ *n* a boat with a flat surface (DECK) supported by two narrow parallel HULLS (=floating surfaces), like two boats fastened together

cat-and-dog /ˌ· · ˈ·/ *adj* [A] *infml* full of quarrels and arguments: *In the early years of their marriage they had led a cat-and-dog existence|life.*

cat·a·pult[1] /ˈkætəpʌlt/ *n* **1** *BrE* ‖ **slingshot** *AmE*– a small Y-shaped stick with a rubber band fastened between the forks, used by children to shoot small stones **2** a machine for throwing heavy stones, balls, etc., used in former times as a weapon for breaking down defensive walls

catapult[2] *v* [T+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] to fire (as if) from a catapult: *The attackers catapulted stones against the town wall.* | *The car stopped suddenly and I was catapulted through the windscreen.* | (fig.) *She was catapulted to stardom by the success of her first record.*

cat·a·ract /ˈkætərækt/ *n* **1** a large waterfall **2** *med* a disease of the eye in which the LENS becomes clouded and causes a gradual loss of sight

ca·tarrh /kəˈtɑːr/ *n* [U] a flow of thick liquid, esp. in the nose and throat, which causes a feeling of discomfort, as when one has a cold: *He suffers from chronic catarrh.* –~**al** *adj*

ca·tas·tro·phe /kəˈtæstrəfi/ *n* a sudden, unexpected, and terrible event that causes great suffering, misfortune, or ruin: *The flood was a major catastrophe, causing heavy loss of life.* | (fig.) *The party could be heading for catastrophe in the election.* –**-phic** /ˌkætəˈstrɒfɪk◂‖-ˈstrɑː-/ *adj* –**-phically** /kli/ *adv* : *the catastrophic consequences of a war*

cat·a·ton·ic /ˌkætəˈtɒnɪk◂‖-ˈtɑː-/ *adj* suffering from or being CATALEPSY: *a catatonic trance*

cat burˑglar /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a thief who enters and leaves a building by climbing up walls, pipes, etc.

cat·call /ˈkætkɔːl/ *n* a loud whistle or cry expressing disapproval or displeasure, made at events like theatre performances and sports matches –**catcall** *v* [I]

catch[1] /kætʃ/ *v* **caught** /kɔːt/ **1** [T] to get hold of and stop (a moving object): *I threw the ball, and the dog caught it in his mouth.* **2** [T] to trap, esp. after chasing or hunting; CAPTURE: *The cat caught a mouse.* | *to catch a fish in a net* | *They drove off after the thieves but couldn't catch them.* | *The police are confident that the murderer will be caught.* **3** [T] to discover suddenly and by surprise (esp. someone who is doing something wrong): *I caught him in the act (of reading my diary).* [+*obj*+*v-ing*] *The police caught him stealing a car.* | **You won't catch me** *mending his socks for him!* (=I'll never do that) | *The thieves were* **caught red-handed.** (=were found while actually stealing) | (fig.) *This kind of cancer can be cured, provided it is caught early.* (=if its existence is discovered at an early stage) **4** [T] to be in time for: *We had to run fast in order to catch the train.* | *If you post the letter now, you'll just catch the last collection.* | *If we go home now, we might just catch the 10 o'clock news.* –opposite **miss** **5** [T] to get (an illness); become infected with: *to catch a cold* **6** [I;T] to (cause to) become hooked, held, fastened, or stuck: *My skirt caught in the door|got caught in the door.* | *I caught my dress on a nail.* | *I got my finger caught in the wire fence.* | (fig.) *The company is caught between the need to invest more money and the need to keep costs as low as possible.* **7** [T] to attract (esp. interest or attention): *The unusual panelling on the walls caught our attention.* | *The idea caught her imagination.* | *I'd like another drink; try to* **catch** *the waiter's* **eye.** (=look at him to attract his attention) **8** [T *not in progressive forms*] to get or notice for a moment: *I suddenly* **caught sight of** *her in the crowd.* | *The fans waited at the airport, hoping to* **catch a glimpse** *of their idol as he passed through.* | *Try to catch a bit of sleep on the journey.* **9** [T *not in progressive forms*] to hear clearly and/or understand: *I didn't quite catch your last point – could you say it again?* | *What did she say? I didn't catch it.* **10** [T] to give a good representation of (a quality) in a picture, piece of writing, etc.: *The novel catches the mood of pre-war Britain very well.* | *The photograph catches her smile perfectly.* **11** [I] to start to burn: *The wind was so strong that the fire caught quickly.* –see FIRE (USAGE) **12** [T (OUT) *often pass.*] (in cricket) to end (a player's) turn to BAT by taking and holding a ball hit off the BAT before it touches the ground **13** [T+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] to hit (a person or animal); strike: *I caught him on the chin with a heavy punch.* **14** act as CATCHER in baseball: *Who's catching for the Yankees today?* **15 catch as catch can** to survive in a bad situation by doing whatever you can: *It's been catch as catch can for him ever since he lost his job.* **16 catch fire** to start burning **17 catch it** *infml* to be in trouble for doing something wrong: *We'll really catch it from the teacher if we're late again.* **18 catch one's breath: a** to stop breathing for a moment from surprise, fear, shock, etc.: *The news was so unexpected I caught my breath from shock.* **b** to return to one's usual rate of breathing after hard physical effort: *Let me sit down for a moment while I catch my breath.*

catch at sthg. *phr v* [T] to try to take or hold: *A drowning man will catch at anything, even a straw.*

catch on *phr v* [I] **1** to become popular or fashionable: *It was a popular style in Britain, but it never really caught on in America.* **2** [(**to**)] to begin to understand: *It was a long time before the police caught on to what he was really doing.*

catch sbdy. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T (**in**)] *BrE* to show (someone) to be doing something wrong or making a mistake: *The prosecuting lawyer tried to catch the witness out by clever questioning.*

catch up *phr v* **1** [I (**with**);T (=**catch** sbdy./sthg. **up**)] to come up from behind and reach the same point or level as: *You walk on and I'll catch up with you later|(esp. BrE) I'll catch you up later.* | *At the moment our technology is more advanced than theirs, but they are catching up (with us) fast.* **2** [I (**on**)] to do what needs to be done in order to come up to date: *I have to catch up on my work tonight, so I can't come out.* | *I've been away from school for two weeks, so I've got a lot of catching up to do.* **3 caught up in** included in, often against one's wishes; INVOLVED in: *The government got caught up in a bitter dispute between the miners and their employers.*

catch[2] *n* **1** [C] an act of seizing and holding something thrown or hit, esp. a ball: *a good catch* **2** [C] (the amount of) something caught: *The boat brought back a big catch of fish.* | *(infml) Her husband was a good catch – he's rich and attractive.* **3** [C] a hook or other apparatus for fastening something or holding it shut: *The catch on this door is broken.* –see also SAFETY CATCH **4** [C] *infml* a hidden problem or difficulty; SNAG: *That house is extremely cheap; there must be a catch in|to it somewhere!* | *The salary is fantastic, but the catch is that you have to spend six months of the year in the Antarctic.* –see also CATCH-22 **5** [U] a simple game in which two or more people throw a ball to each other: *Let's play catch.*

catch-22 /ˌkætʃ twenti ˈtuː/ *n* [U] (*often cap.*) a situation from which one is prevented from escaping by something that is part of the situation itself (from the title of a book by Joseph Heller about the experiences of an American air-force pilot): *I can't get a job unless I belong to the union, and I can't join the union until I've got a job – it's a case of catch-22|it's a catch-22 situation!*

catch-all[1] /ˈ· ·/ *n AmE* something to hold or catch various small items, such as a bag or a drawer

catch-all[2] *adj* [A] intended to include or take account of all types, situations, or possibilities: *a vague catch-all clause in the contract to protect the rights of the author*

catch crop /ˈ· ·/ *n* a quick-growing vegetable crop planted between two rows of another crop to use soil not otherwise used –compare CASH CROP

catch·er /ˈkætʃəʳ/ *n* in BASEBALL, the defensive player who stands behind the BATTER –see picture at BASEBALL

Catcher in the Rye /ˌ·· · · ˈ·/, **The** a book by American author J. D. Salinger (1919–) published (PUBLISH) in 1951, about a young man, Holden CAULFIELD, who runs away from school and goes to New York. The book was esp. popular with young people, with its descriptions of ADOLESCENT life.

catch·ing /ˈkætʃɪŋ/ *adj* [F] *infml* (of a disease) infectious

catch·ment ar·e·a /ˈkætʃmənt ˌeəriə/ *n* **1** the area from which a lake or river gets its water **2** the area from which a school gets its pupils, a hospital gets its patients, etc.

catch·pen·ny /ˈkætʃˌpeni/ *adj* [A] *derog* cheap and worthless, but made to appear attractive

catch·phrase /ˈkætʃfreɪz/ *n* a phrase, often with little meaning, which becomes fashionable and widely used for a time

catch·word /ˈkætʃwɜːd‖-wɜːrd/ *n* a word or phrase repeated so regularly that it becomes representative of a political party, newspaper, etc.; SLOGAN

catch·y /ˈkætʃi/ *adj* (of a tune or song) easy to remember: *a catchy song* —**-ily** *adv*

cat·e·chis·m /ˈkætɪˌkɪzəm/ *n* a set of questions and answers, often in the form of a small book, used for religious instruction in some branches of the Christian church —**-chist** *n*

cat·e·chize ‖ also **-chise** *BrE* /ˈkætɪkaɪz/ *v* [T] to teach (someone) religion by a process of question and answer

cat·e·gor·i·cal /ˌkætɪˈgɒrɪkəl◂‖-ˈgɔː-, -ˈgɑː-/ *adj* unconditional; made without any doubt in the mind of the speaker or writer: *a categorical statement/assurance | The government has issued a categorical denial of this rumour.* —**~ly** /kli/ *adv* : *He categorically denied having seen it.*

cat·e·go·rize also **-rise** *BrE* /ˈkætɪgəraɪz/ *v* [T (**as**)] to put in a category; CLASSIFY: *His politics are fairly left-wing, but he doesn't like to be categorized as a socialist. | Her writing is very individual – it's difficult to categorize.* —**-rization** /ˌkætɪgəraɪˈzeɪʃən‖-rə-/ *n* [C;U]

cat·e·go·ry /ˈkætɪgəri‖-gɔːri/ *n* a division or class in a system for dividing objects into groups according to their nature or type: *The voters fall into three main categories: Republicans, Democrats, and "Don't Knows".*

ca·ter /ˈkeɪtəʳ/ *v* [I;T] to provide and serve food and drinks, usu. for payment, at a public or private party rather than in a restaurant: *Who's catering at your daughter's wedding|(esp. AmE) Who's catering your daughter's wedding?* —see also SELF CATERING — **~er** *n* : *a firm of caterers*

cater for sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] to provide what is needed or wanted by: *a holiday company that caters mainly for young people | Our newspapers try to cater for all opinions.*

cater to sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] to try to satisfy (desires or needs, esp. of a bad kind): *Those newspapers cater to the lowest tastes. | She refused to cater to his ridiculous demands.*

cat·er·pil·lar /ˈkætəˌpɪləʳ‖-tər-/ *n* **1** a small long many-legged wormlike creature (LARVA of the BUTTERFLY and other insects) which feeds on the leaves of plants —see picture at METAMORPHOSIS **2** also **caterpillar track** /ˈ···· ˌ·/ – an endless chain of metal plates fastened over the wheels of a heavy vehicle, such as a TANK¹(2)

caterpillar trac·tor /ˌ···· ˈ··/ *n* a large heavy vehicle which moves along on a CATERPILLAR (2) and is used for farm work, road repair, or building work

cat·er·waul /ˈkætəwɔːl‖-tər-/ *v* [I] to make a loud unpleasant catlike sound —**caterwaul** *n* [S]

cat·gut /ˈkætgʌt/ *n* [U] strong cord made from the INTESTINES of animals, esp. sheep, and used for the strings of musical instruments

ca·thar·sis /kəˈθɑːsɪs, kæ-‖kəˈθɑːr-/ *n* **-ses** /siːz/ *fml or tech* [C;U] the process by which strong and perhaps dangerous feelings are allowed to be experienced, e.g. under the influence of music or DRAMA, so that they lose their power —**-tic** *adj* : *Watching tragic drama is supposed to have a cathartic effect on people.*

ca·the·dral /kəˈθiːdrəl/ *n* the chief church of a Christian DIOCESE (=an area with a BISHOP), usu. a very large, beautifully decorated stone structure: *Durham Cathedral | a cathedral city* (=one which has a cathedral)

Cath·er /ˈkæðəʳ/, **Wil·la** /ˈwɪlə/ (1873–1947) an American writer who grew up in Nebraska when it was first being settled. Her books include *O Pioneers* and *My Antonia*.

Cath·e·rine of Ar·a·gon /ˌkæθərɪn əv ˈærəgən‖-gɑːn/ also **Catharine, Katherine** (1485–1536) the first wife of King Henry VIII of England

Catherine the Great /ˌ··· · ˈ·/ (1729–96) the Empress of Russia from 1762, also called **Catherine II**

catherine wheel /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a circular FIREWORK that is pinned to an upright surface and turns round when set on fire

cath·e·ter /ˈkæθɪtəʳ/ *n* a thin tube that is put into passages in the body, used esp. for putting in or taking out liquids

cath·ode /ˈkæθəʊd/ also **negative pole**– *n tech* the part of an electrical instrument (such as a BATTERY) from which ELECTRONS leave, often a rod or wire represented by the sign [–] —compare ANODE

cathode ray tube /ˌ·· ˈ· ·/ *n* a glass instrument in which streams of ELECTRONS from the CATHODE (**cathode rays**) are directed onto a flat surface where they give out light, as in a television

cath·o·lic /ˈkæθəlɪk/ *adj fml* (esp. of likings and interests) general; including many different things; broad: *catholic opinions/tastes* — **~ity** /ˌkæθəˈlɪsɪti/ *n* [U]

Catholic *adj, n* (a member) of the Roman Catholic Church: *Catholic schools | Is he (a) Catholic or (a) Protestant?* — **~ism** /kəˈθɒlɪsɪzəm‖kəˈθɑː-/ *n* [U]

cat house /ˈ· ·/ *n AmE old-fash* a BROTHEL

cat·kin /ˈkætkɪn/ *n esp BrE* a stringlike bunch of soft small furry flowers that grows on certain trees such as the WILLOW or BIRCH

cat lit·ter /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* [U] a special substance (LITTER¹ (3b)) on which house cats can empty their bowels

cat·nap /ˈkætnæp/ *n infml* a very short light sleep

cat·nip /ˈkætnɪp/ *n* [U] a HERB whose smell is very attractive to cats

cat-o'-nine-tails /ˌkæt ə ˈnaɪn ˌteɪlz/ also **cat–** *n* a whip of nine knotted cords fastened to a handle, used formerly for punishing people

CAT scan /ˈkæt skæn/ also **CT scan** *n med* an image of the body made by X-RAYS with an advanced machine that can make a picture of a CROSS-SECTION of the body. CAT scans can be used to discover whether a disease such as CANCER is present.

cat's cra·dle /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [U] a children's game played with string wound round the fingers and passed from one finger to another to make various shapes

cat's eye /ˈ· ·/ *n* **1** a small object fixed in the middle of a road which shines when lit by car lights in the dark **2** a valuable stone which REFLECTS a narrow band of light

Cat·skill Moun·tains /ˌkætskɪl ˈmaʊntɪnz/ [*the*+pl] mountains in the southeast of the US state of New York, which are part of the Appalachian mountain range

cat's paw /ˈ· ·/ *n infml* someone who does unpleasant or dangerous jobs on the orders of another person; TOOL¹ (3)

cat·suit /ˈkætsuːt, -sjuːt‖-suːt/ *n* a tightly fitting garment, worn esp. by women, consisting of a combined top and trousers

cat·sup /ˈkætsəp/ *n* [U] *esp. AmE* KETCHUP

cat's whis·kers /ˌ· ˈ··/ *infml* **be the cat's whiskers** to be an excellent person or thing: *My new calculator really is the cat's whiskers!*

cat·tail /ˈkæt-teɪl/ *n AmE* ‖ **bulrush** *BrE*– a tall, grasslike plant with a thick brown top, which grows near water

cat·ter·y /ˈkætəri/ *n BrE* a place where cats are looked after or bred

cat·tle /ˈkætl/ *n* [P] cows and BULLS, esp. as kept on farms for meat or milk: *He has twenty (head of) cattle on his farm. | The cattle are in the shed.*

cattle grid /ˈ·· ·/ **cattle guard** *AmE*– *n* a set of poles placed over a hole in a road, which cars can go across but animals cannot

cat·tle·man /ˈkætlmən/ **cat·tlewom·an** /ˈkætlwʊmən/ *fem.* – *n* **-men** /mən/ a man who looks after cattle

cattle mar·ket /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a place where cattle are bought and sold: (fig.) *The Miss World contest is just a cattle market.*

cattle truck /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n BrE* a railway vehicle or a LORRY made to carry cattle

cat·ty /ˈkæti/ *adj infml derog* showing a desire to hurt or harm someone, esp. in a way that is not openly or directly expressed; MALICIOUS: *She often makes catty remarks about her stepmother.* —**-tily** *adv* —**-tiness** *n* [U]

catty-cor·ner /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *adv AmE for* KITTY-CORNER

Ca·tul·lus /kəˈtʌləs/, **Gai·us Va·ler·i·us** /ˈgaɪəs vəˈlɪəriəs/ (about 84–54 BC) a Roman poet

cat·walk /ˈkætwɔːk/ *n* a narrow raised footway, esp. along a bridge or round a large machine, or sticking out into a room for MODELS to walk on in a fashion show

Cau·ca·si·an /kɔːˈkeɪziən‖-ˈkeɪʒən/ *adj* **1** of the white race of man, according to physical features **2** of the Caucasus, its people, or languages —**Caucasian** *n*

Cau·ca·sus /ˈkɔːkəsəs/ [*the*] **1** mountains in S Europe between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea, containing Mount Elbrus, Europe's highest mountain **2** a region

of S Europe, also called **Caucasia** between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea

cau·cus /ˈkɔːkəs/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] (a meeting of) a group of people in a political party, who come together to decide on political plans or to choose people who will represent the party in an election —see also extra information on page 412

cau·dal /ˈkɔːdl/ *adj tech* of or at the tail or tail-end of the body —~**ly** *adv*

caught /kɔːt/ *past tense & participle of* CATCH

caul·dron , cal- /ˈkɔːldrən/ *n old use or lit* a large round open metal pot for boiling liquids over a fire. In stories, WITCH*es* use cauldrons to make harmful substances.

Caul·field /ˈkɔːlfiːld/, **Hol·den** /ˈhəʊldən/ The main character in the novel *The Catcher in the Rye* by J D Salinger. As a TEENAGER he experiences many of the difficulties associated with that time of life.

cau·li·flow·er /ˈkɒlɪˌflaʊəʳ‖ˈkɔː-, ˈkɑː-/ *n* [C;U] (the white part, cooked and eaten as food, of) a garden vegetable with green leaves around a large firm white head of undeveloped flowers —see picture at VEGETABLE

cauliflower ear /ˌ···· ˈ·/ *n* an ear which is damaged and an odd shape as a result of a blow to the head, esp. while boxing

caulk , calk /kɔːk/ *v* [T] to block up (cracks, esp. in a ship) with oily or sticky WATERPROOF material

caus·al /ˈkɔːzəl/ *adj fml* having or showing the relationship of cause and effect: *They denied that there was any causal connection/link between unemployment and crime.* —~**ly** *adv*

cau·sal·i·ty /kɔːˈzælɨti/ *n* [U] *fml* the relationship between a cause and its effect; principle that events have causes

cau·sa·tion /kɔːˈzeɪʃən/ *n* [U] *fml* **1** the action of causing something **2** the relationship of cause and effect; causality

caus·a·tive /ˈkɔːzətɪv/ *adj fml* **1** acting as a cause; producing an effect: *one of several causative factors in the company's failure* **2** *tech* (of a verb or verb form) showing that the subject of the verb is the cause of an action or state —~**ly** *adv*

cause[1] /kɔːz/ *n* **1** [C (**of**)] something which produces an effect; a person, thing, or event that makes something happen: *Ice on the road was the cause of the accident.* | *In our view, the* **root cause/underlying cause** *of the crime problem* (=the most important cause from which all others come) *is poverty and unemployment.* | *He is the cause of all my unhappiness.* **2** [U] something that provides a satisfactory reason for an action; JUSTIFICATION; GROUNDS: *Don't complain without (good) cause.* | *to show cause* (=give a good reason) *for dismissing a worker* | *The patient's condition is* **giving cause for concern**. **3** [C] a principle, aim, or movement that is strongly defended or supported: *her lifelong devotion to the cause of women's rights* | *collecting money for good causes such as famine relief* **4** [C] *law* the reason for action in a court of law; a matter over which a person takes legal action **5 make common cause (with)** *fml* to take action together for a particular purpose: *We made common cause with neighbouring countries against the invaders.* —see also LOST CAUSE; see REASON (USAGE)

cause[2] *v* [T] to lead to or be the cause of: *What caused the accident?* | *They have been charged with causing criminal damage.* [+*obj*+*to-v*] *His illness caused him to miss the game.* [+*obj(i)*+*obj(d)*] *This car has caused me a lot of trouble.* | *Her irresponsible behaviour has caused a great deal of anxiety to/for her family.* | *They believe inflation is caused by big wage increases.*

▷USAGE Compare **cause, make,** and **let. Cause** with an object can be formal or informal: *Cigarettes may* **cause** *cancer.* | *Why do you always* **cause** *trouble?* **Cause** with an object and infinitive with *to* is formal: *The earthquake* **caused** *several buildings to collapse.* **Make** when used with a verb has a similar meaning, but is more common in conversation, and is followed by an object and an infinitive without *to*: *It's a sad film; it'll* **make** *you cry.* **Let** (=*allow*) can be formal or informal. It is usually followed by an object and infinitive without **to**: *The valve* **lets** *water enter the pump.* | **Let** *me go!*◁

cause cé·lè·bre /ˌkəʊz seˈlebrə, ˌkɔːz-/ *n* **causes célèbres** (*same prónunciation*) *Fr* **1** an event which attracts a lot of usu. unfavourable attention **2** a case in a court of law that receives a lot of public interest

cause·way /ˈkɔːzweɪ/ *n* a raised road or path, esp. across wet ground or water

caus·tic /ˈkɔːstɪk/ *adj* **1** able to burn or destroy by chemical action; CORROSIVE: *caustic soda* **2** (esp. of remarks) showing strong dislike or disapproval and intended to hurt; bitter: *John's always making caustic comments about your work.* | *caustic satire/wit* —~**ally** /kli/ *adv*

cau·ter·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /ˈkɔːtəraɪz/ *v* [T] *med* to burn (a wound, snake bite, etc.) with a very hot iron or caustic substance to destroy infection

cau·tion[1] /ˈkɔːʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the quality of using great care and attention, esp. in order to avoid danger: *Open the box with caution.* | *You must exercise great caution when operating the machine.* | *Their claims should be treated with extreme caution.* (=not accepted or believed without careful thought) **2** [C] a spoken warning usu. given by a policeman, judge, etc., when a person has broken the law or done something wrong but when the crime is not serious: *I'll let you off with a caution this time.* **3** [S] *old-fash* a person or thing that causes amusement

caution[2] *v* [T] **1** [(**about, against**)] to warn against possible danger: *She cautioned the child against talking to strange men.* [+*that*] *The director cautioned that these changes could lead to job losses.* [+*obj*+*that*] (*law*) *The policeman said, "I must caution you that anything you say may be used against you (at your trial)."* **2** [(**for, about**)] *BrE law* to warn officially about something bad already done, often with the threat of future punishment for doing it again: *The policeman cautioned me for speeding.*

cau·tion·ar·y /ˈkɔːʃənəri‖-neri/ *adj fml or humor* giving advice or a warning: *a* **cautionary tale** (=story) *about a boy who had been seriously injured while playing near the railway line*

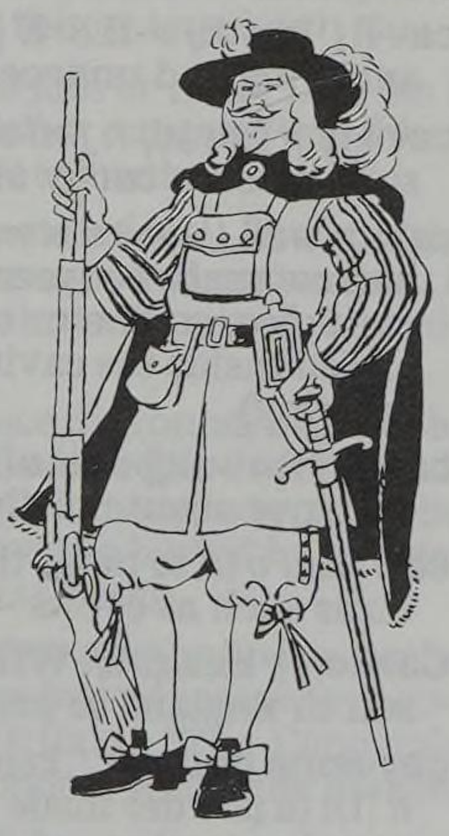
cau·tious /ˈkɔːʃəs/ *adj* [(**about, of, with**)] using or showing caution; careful to avoid risks; PRUDENT: *a cautious approach to dealing with the problem* | *cautious with money* | *The bank is very cautious about lending money.* | *a very cautious driver* | *cautious optimism* —~**ly** *adv*: *She opened the door cautiously so as not to wake the baby.* | *These suggestions were cautiously welcomed by the committee.* —~**ness** *n* [U]

cav·al·cade /ˌkævəlˈkeɪd, ˈkævəlkeɪd/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] a ceremonial procession of riders, vehicles, etc.

cav·a·lier /ˌkævəˈlɪəʳ◂/ *adj* thoughtless and disrespectful; OFFHAND: *I'm annoyed at your cavalier attitude towards this serious matter.* | *a cavalier manner*

Cavalier *n* **1** (*usu. cap.*) a supporter of the King against Parliament in the English Civil War in the 17th century. The Cavaliers fought against the ROUNDHEADS **2** *tdmk* a medium-sized British car made by Vauxhall

Cavalier



cav·al·ry /ˈkævəlri/ *n* [(*the*) U+*sing./pl. v*] **1** (esp. in former times) soldiers who fight on horseback: *The cavalry was/were advancing.* | *cavalry officers*

►CULTURAL NOTE In old Western films, the US Cavalry often arrives just in time to save people from being hurt or killed, and people sometimes say "the cavalry is on its way" when someone is coming to help or rescue another person.◄

2 a branch of a modern army that uses armoured vehicles —compare INFANTRY

cav·al·ry·man /ˈkævəlrimən/ *n* **-men** /mən/ (esp. in former times) a soldier who fights on horseback

cave[1] /keɪv/ *n* a deep natural hollow place, either underground, with an opening to the surface, or in the side of a cliff or hill

cave[2] *v*

cave in *phr v* [I] **1** (of a roof or the covering over a

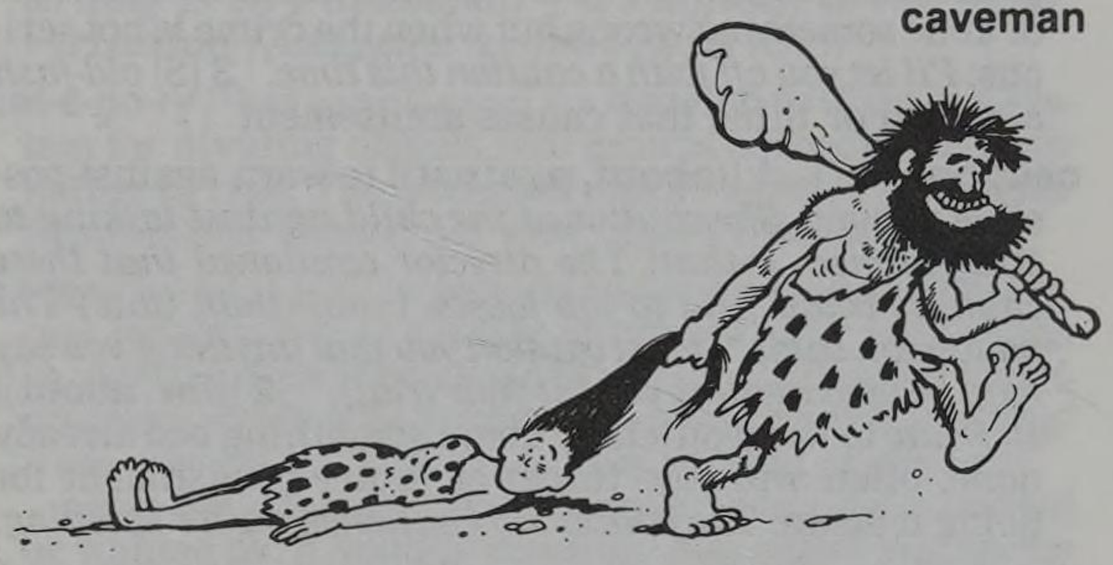
hollow place) to fall in or down **2** [**(to)**] *infml, often derog.* to give up opposition, esp. as a result of pressure or persuasion; YIELD: *They refused to cave in to the terrorists' demands.* —**cave-in** /ˈ· ·/ *n* : *a cave-in at the mine*

ca·ve·at /ˈkeɪviæt, ˈkæv-/ *n* [**(against)**] *fml* a statement or warning intended to prevent misunderstanding: *The evidence looks convincing but there is one important caveat – namely, that it all comes from the same unreliable source.*

caveat emp·tor /ˌkeɪviæt ˈemptɔːr, ˌkæv-/ *n* [U] *Lat* a warning principle in buying and selling that responsibility for the quality of goods must be taken by the buyer. It means "buyer beware".

cave·man /ˈkeɪvmæn/ *n* **-men** /men/ **1** a person who lived in a cave in very ancient times. The STEREOTYPE of a caveman is of a man with long hair and beard, wearing an animal's skin round his body, carrying a piece of wood as a weapon, and pulling his wife along behind him by her hair. **2** *infml* a man who acts in a rough violent manner

caveman



Cav·en·dish /ˈkævəndɪʃ/, **Henry** (1731–1810) an English scientist who discovered HYDROGEN and the arrangement of chemicals that make up water

cav·ern /ˈkævən‖-ərn/ *n* a large cave

cav·ern·ous /ˈkævənəs‖-ərnəs/ *adj* (of a space or hole) very large and deep: *The lion opened its cavernous mouth.* | *a cavernous hall* —**~ly** *adv*

cav·i·ar , -are /ˈkæviɑːr/ *n* [U] **1** the very expensive ROE (=salted eggs) of various large fish, esp. the STURGEON, eaten as food. Caviar is a special food for most people, but is thought to be typical of the life style of the very rich. **2 caviar to the general** *BrE lit or humor* something liked and understood only by a person of sensitivity and good education

cav·il /ˈkævəl/ *v* **-ll** *BrE* ‖ **-l** *-AmE* [I **(at)**] to find fault in an annoying and unnecessary way —**~ler** *n*

cav·i·ty /ˈkævɨti/ *n fml or tech* a hole or hollow space in a solid mass: *a cavity in a tooth|in a wall*

cavity wall /ˈ··· ·/ *n* a wall consisting of two walls with a narrow space between them, used in buildings to keep out noise, cold, etc.: *cavity wall insulation* (=material placed inside the cavity wall, to help keep heat inside a building)

ca·vort /kəˈvɔːt‖-ɔːrt/ *v* [I] *infml* (esp. of a person) to jump or dance about noisily; CAPER

caw /kɔː/ *v* [I] to make the loud rough cry of various large birds such as CROWS —**caw** *n*

Cax·ton /ˈkækstən/, **William** (about 1422–91) the first person in England to print books and other documents

cay·enne pep·per /ˌkeɪen ˈpepəʳ/ also **cayenne** /ˌkeɪˈen◂/ *n* [U] (a powder made from) a PEPPER[1] (2) with long thin very hot-tasting red fruit

Cay·man Is·lands /ˈkeɪmən ˌaɪləndz/ a group of three islands in the Caribbean Sea, NW of Jamaica

CB /ˌsiː ˈbiː◂/ *n* [U] Citizens' Band; a radio on which people can speak to each other over short distances. In the US, long-distance TRUCK drivers often have CBs, which they use to speak to other drivers, both socially and to avoid the police. Users of CBs often give themselves NICKNAMES.

CBC /ˌsiː biː ˈsiː/ Canadian Broadcasting Corporation; a television company that is supported by the Canadian government

CBE /ˌsiː biː ˈiː/ *n* Commander of the British Empire; an award given to people for services to the country

CBI /ˌsiː biː ˈaɪ/ [*the*] Confederation of British Industry; an organization which helps in the development and growth of British industry, and exchanges information and ideas with the government

CBS /ˌsiː biː ˈes/ Columbia Broadcasting System; one of the national television companies which broadcast all over the US: *a CBS news reporter*

cc *abbrev. for:* **1** CUBIC CENTIMETRE: *a 200 cc engine* **2** CUBIC CAPACITY

CCITT /ˌsiː siː ˌaɪ tiː ˈtiː/ Comité Consultatif Internationale de Télégraphique et Téléphonique; an international organization with its main offices in Geneva. Its members represent the telephone companies and authorities from countries around the world, and they decide standards for all kinds of telephone, TELECOMMUNICATIONS, and computer equipment.

CCTV *written abbrev. for:* CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION

CD /ˌsiː ˈdiː/ *n* **1** a COMPACT DISC **2** a CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT **3** Corps Diplomatique; the letters CD on the back of a car show that it is used by a DIPLOMAT

CDC /ˌsiː diː ˈsiː/ CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL

CDP /ˌsiː diː ˈpiː/ *n AmE* Census Designated Place; an area that is not legally considered a single city, but looks like one and is called by one name, esp. by the people who live there: *Carney CDP, Maryland*

CD-ROM /ˌsiː diː ˈrɒm‖-ˈrɑːm/ *n* compact disc read-only memory; a COMPACT DISC on which very large quantities of information can be stored for use by a computer. Unlike the information on a FLOPPY DISK, the information on a CD-ROM cannot be changed or removed.

CDT[1] /ˌsiː diː ˈtiː/ *n* [U] *BrE* Craft, Design, and Technology; a practical subject, involving the designing and making of things in metal, wood, etc., studied in many British schools and colleges

CDT[2] *abbrev for* CENTRAL DAYLIGHT TIME

CE /ˌsiː ˈiː/ *abbrev. for:* common era —see BC (USAGE)

cease[1] /siːs/ *v* [I;T] *fml* to stop (esp. an activity or state): *It rained all day without ceasing.* | *Cease fire!* (=Stop shooting!) [+*to-v*] *As from the end of the month, this regulation will cease to have effect.* [+*v-ing*] *The company has ceased trading in this part of the world.* —see also **wonders will never cease** (WONDER[2] (7))

cease[2] *n* **without cease** *fml* continuously; without ceasing —see also CEASELESS

cease-fire /ˈ· ·/ *n* an agreement to stop fighting for a certain period, esp. so that a more lasting peace agreement can be established: *to negotiate a cease-fire* — compare ARMISTICE, TRUCE

cease·less /ˈsiːsləs/ *adj fml* unending; continuous; without ceasing: *ceaseless activity* —**~ly** *adv* : *She practised ceaselessly.*

Ceau·çes·cu /tʃaʊˈʃeskuː/, **Nic·o·lae** /ˈnɪkəlaɪ/ (1918–89) a president of Romania, who became increasingly unpopular and dependent on his secret police for his position until he was removed from power and EXECUTED

ce·dar /ˈsiːdəʳ/ *n* **1** [C] a tall EVERGREEN tree **2** [U] also **ce·dar·wood** /ˈsiːdəwʊd‖-ər-/— the hard reddish sweet-smelling wood of this tree used for making pencils, decorative boxes, furniture, etc.

cede /siːd/ *v* [T **(to)**] *fml* to give (usu. land or a right) to another country or person, esp. after losing a war: *By the terms of the treaty, a third of their territory was ceded to France.* —see also CESSION

ce·dil·la /sɪˈdɪlə/ *n* (when writing certain languages) a mark put under a letter (as with ç in French) to show that it has a special sound

Cee·fax /ˈsiːfæks/ *tdmk* an information service without sound provided by the BBC for paying customers on a special television CHANNEL

CEGB /ˌsiː iː dʒiː ˈbiː/ [*the*] Central Electricity Generating Board; the organization which supplied electricity in England and Wales before 1990. In 1990 the industry was divided into four companies, Power Gen, National Power, National Grid, and Nuclear Electric, two of which were sold to private buyers.

cei·lidh /ˈkeɪli/ *n* an evening entertainment in Scotland and Ireland which includes singing, dancing, and story telling

cei·ling /ˈsiːlɪŋ/ *n* **1** the inner surface of the top of a room —compare ROOF¹ (1) **2** [**(on)**] a usu. official upper limit on prices, wages, rents, etc.: *The government set|imposed a ceiling on imports of foreign cars.* **3** *tech* height above ground: *a low cloud ceiling | The plane has an operational ceiling of 50,000 feet.* —see also GLASS CEILING

cel·e·brate /ˈselɪbreɪt/ *v* **1** [I;T] to mark (an event or special occasion) by enjoying oneself, publicly or privately: *We celebrated (her birthday) with a party|by going out to a restaurant. | These good results have given us something to celebrate.* **2** [T] *fml* to praise in writing, speech, etc.: *poems that celebrate the joys of love* **3** [T] to perform a religious ceremony, esp. the Christian Mass solemnly and officially

cel·e·brat·ed /ˈselɪbreɪtɪd/ *adj* [**(as, for)**] well-known; famous: *a celebrated writer|legal trial | Venice is celebrated for its beautiful buildings.*

cel·e·bra·tion /ˌselɪˈbreɪʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the act of celebrating **2** [C] an occasion of celebrating, such as a party: *the new country's independence celebrations*

ce·leb·ri·ty /sɪˈlebrɪti/ *n* **1** [C] a famous person, esp. in the business of entertainment: *to interview celebrities on television* **2** [U] *fml* the state of being famous; fame

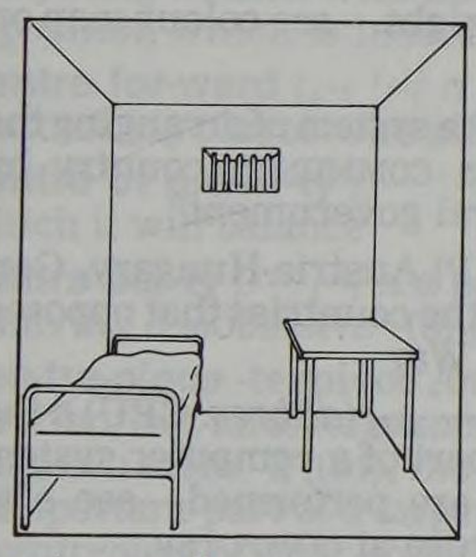
ce·ler·i·ty /sɪˈlerɪti/ *n* [U] *fml* speed; quickness

cel·e·ry /ˈselәri/ *n* [U] (the bunched greenish-white stems of) a small plant eaten cooked or uncooked as a vegetable: *He dug up a* **head of celery**. | *She ate a* **stick of celery.** | *celery soup* —see picture at VEGETABLE

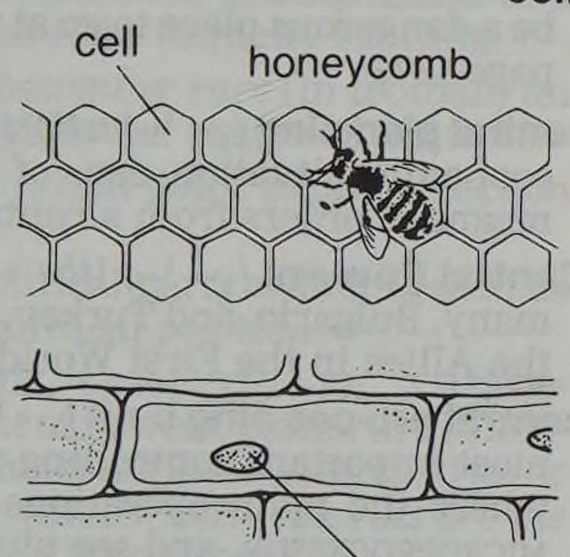
ce·les·ti·al /sɪˈlestiәl‖-tʃәl/ *adj fml* of the sky or heaven: *The sun, the stars, and the moon are celestial bodies. | Angels are celestial beings.*

cel·i·bate /ˈselɪbɪt/ *n, adj* (a person, esp. a priest or NUN, who is) unmarried and not taking part in sexual activity, esp. as the result of a religious promise —compare CHASTE (1) —**-bacy** *n* [U] : *a vow* (=promise) *of celibacy*

cell



prison cell



cell /sel/ *n* **1** a small room **a** in a prison for one person or a small number of people **b** in a MONASTERY or CONVENT for one person **2** a very small division of living matter, with one centre of activity (NUCLEUS (2)), able alone or with others to perform all the operations necessary for life —see also RED BLOOD CELL **3** one of a number of small parts belonging to a larger structure, esp. one of the divisions of a HONEYCOMB **4** an apparatus for making a current of electricity by chemical action **5** [*+sing./pl. v*] a small group of people operating secretly as part of a larger, usu. political organization: *a terrorist cell* **6 -celled** /seld/ having the stated number or type of cells: *single-celled organisms*

cel·lar /ˈselәr/ *n* **1** an underground room, usu. without windows and used for storing goods: *a coal cellar* **2** a store of wine belonging to a person, restaurant, etc.

cel·lar·age /ˈselәrɪdʒ/ *n* [U] **1** the amount of cellar space **2** the charge for storing something in a cellar

cell di·vi·sion /ˈ· ·ˌ··/ *n* [C;U] (an act of) the process by which plant and animal cells increase their numbers —see also MEIOSIS, MITOSIS

cel·list /ˈtʃelɪst/ also **violoncellist** *fml*— *n* a person who plays the cello

cel·lo /ˈtʃeləʊ/ also **violoncello** *fml*— *n* **-los** a stringed musical instrument, like the VIOLIN and VIOLA but larger and producing a deeper sound

Cel·lo·phane /ˈselәfeɪn/ *n* [U] *tdmk* thin transparent material used for wrapping goods, esp. food

cell·phone /ˈselfәʊn/ *n* a cellular telephone

cel·lu·lar /ˈseljʊlәr/ *adj* **1** consisting of CELLS (3) **2** (of cloth) loosely woven: *cellular blankets* **3** having many holes; POROUS: *cellular rock* **4** using a network of radio stations to pass on signals: *She has a cellular telephone in her car.*

cel·lu·lite /ˈseljʊlaɪt/ *n* [U] fat which gathers just below the skin on a person's, esp. a woman's, body and gives the skin a slightly lumpy appearance. Cellulite is considered very unattractive and is supposed to be difficult to get rid of.

cel·lu·loid /ˈseljʊlɔɪd/ *n* [U] *tdmk* **1** a plastic substance made mainly from CELLULOSE (2) and formerly used for making photographic film **2 on celluloid** on cinema film: *Her marvellous acting talent is preserved on celluloid.*

cel·lu·lose /ˈseljʊlәʊs/ *n* [U] **1** the material from which the cell walls of plants are made, used in making paper, plastic, many artificial materials, etc. **2** also **cellulose ac·e·tate** /ˌ··· ˈ···/ *tech*— a plastic material used for many industrial purposes, esp. making photographic films or explosives

Cel·si·us /ˈselsiәs/ also **centigrade**— (*abbrev.* **C**) *adj, n* (of or in) a scale of temperature in which water freezes at 0° and boils at 100°: *Is it measured in Fahrenheit or Celsius? | a celsius thermometer |* [after *n*] *a temperature of 12° Celsius*

►CULTURAL NOTE In Britain, temperatures are often given in Celsius and Fahrenheit, since many older people are not used to the Celsius scale. In the US, temperatures are still given in Fahrenheit.◄

Celt /kelt, selt/ *n* a member of an ancient group of people who were living in Britain before the arrival of the Romans and whose various CULTURES and languages are still found esp. in parts of Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, where many people are descended from Celts **2** any member of related groups who settled in areas of Europe and Asia centuries ago

Cel·tic¹ /ˈkeltɪk, ˈseltɪk/ *adj* of (the languages of) the Celts

Cel·tic² /ˈseltɪk/ a Scottish football team based in Glasgow. There is much competition between Celtic and Rangers, the other main Glasgow football team.

ce·ment¹ /sɪˈment/ *n* [U] **1** a grey powder, made from LIME and clay, which becomes hard like stone after being mixed with water and allowed to dry, used in building to join bricks together and in making CONCRETE **2** a thick sticky hard-drying ADHESIVE used for filling holes, as in the teeth, or for joining things together

cement² *v* [T] **1** [(TOGETHER)] to join or make firm (as if) with cement: *Our holiday together cemented our friendship.* **2** [(OVER)] to cover with cement

cement mix·er /·ˈ· ˌ··/ also **concrete mixer**— *n* a machine shaped like a drum which turns round and round, in which cement, sand, and water are mixed to make CONCRETE

cem·e·tery /ˈsemɪtri‖-teri/ *n* a piece of ground, usu. not belonging to a church, in which dead people are buried. In Britain, people used to be buried in CHURCHYARDS, but now most people who are buried are buried in cemeteries —compare CHURCHYARD, GRAVEYARD

cen·o·taph /ˈsenәtɑːf‖-tæf/ *n* a MONUMENT built as a lasting reminder of dead people who are buried somewhere else, esp. those killed in war. In Britain, "The Cenotaph" means the one in Whitehall, London, where the Remembrance Day ceremony is held.

cen·sor¹ /ˈsensәr/ *n* **1** an official who examines books, films, etc., or (esp. in war or in a prison) private letters, with the power to remove anything offensive or (in war) helpful to the enemy: *Parts of this film have been banned by the censor.* **2** (in ancient Rome) an official whose duties included taking the CENSUS and watching and controlling public morals **3** *tech* (in PSYCHOLOGY) something which prevents unacceptable memories, ideas, and wishes from coming into one's consciousness

censor² *v* [T] to examine (books, films, letters, etc.) as a censor: *to censor the prisoners' letters*

cen·so·ri·ous /senˈsɔːriәs/ *adj fml* always looking for mistakes and faults; eager to censure; severely CRITICAL: *censorious people|behaviour* —**~ly** *adv* —**~ness** *n* [U]

cen·sor·ship /ˈsensəʃɪp‖-ər-/ *n* [U] the work of a censor; act or system of censoring: *the censorship of the press/of television programmes*

cen·sure[1] /ˈsenʃəʳ/ *n* [U] *fml* the act of expressing strong disapproval; severe CRITICISM: *The opposition passed a* **vote of censure** *on the government.*

censure[2] *v* [T] *fml* to express strong disapproval of (someone or their behaviour); judge severely and unfavourably: *The policeman was officially censured for his handling of the incident.*

cen·sus /ˈsensəs/ *n* **censuses** **1** an official counting of a country's total population, with other important information about the people. In Britain and the US there is usu. a census every ten years. **2** an official counting of something for governmental planning: *a traffic census*

cent /sent/ *n* (a coin equal to) 0·01 of any of certain units of money, such as the dollar; PENNY —compare NICKEL, DIME, QUARTER (4)

cent- see WORD FORMATION

cen·taur /ˈsentɔːʳ/ *n* in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, a creature with the head, chest, and arms of a man and the body and legs of a horse

cen·ta·vo /senˈtɑːvəʊ/ *n* **-vos** (a coin equal to) 0.01 of the standard unit of money in various Spanish-speaking and Portuguese-speaking countries

cen·te·nar·i·an /ˌsentˈneəriən/ *n* a person who is (more than) 100 years old

cen·te·na·ry /senˈtiːnəri‖-ˈte-, ˈsentəneri/ *n* [**(of)**] the day or year exactly 100 years after a particular event

cen·ten·ni·al /senˈteniəl/ *n AmE* a centenary

cen·ter /ˈsentəʳ/ *n, v AmE for* CENTRE

Centers for Dis·ease Con·trol /ˌ·· · ·ˈ· ·ˌ·/ (*abbrev* **CDC**) [*the*] a US government-supported organization in Atlanta, Georgia, that works to prevent and control the spread of infectious diseases, and studies ways to improve the health of Americans

cen·ti·grade /ˈsentɨgreɪd/ *adj, n* (*often cap.*) CELSIUS: *a centigrade thermometer*

cen·ti·gram, -gramme /ˈsentɨgræm/ *n* a unit for measuring weight —see TABLE 2

cen·time /ˈsɒntiːm‖ˈsɑːn-/ *n* (a coin equal to) 0·01 of any of certain units of money, such as the FRANC

cen·ti·me·tre *BrE* ‖ **-ter** *AmE* /ˈsentɨˌmiːtəʳ/ (*written abbrev.* **c** or **cm**) *n* unit for measuring length —see TABLE 2

cen·ti·pede /ˈsentɨpiːd/ *n* a small wormlike creature with many legs

cen·tral /ˈsentrəl/ *adj* **1** [A *no comp.*] at or forming the centre of a place, object or system: *the central plains of North America | a city in central Asia | Computer terminals in various parts of the country are linked up to a central database.* **2** conveniently near the centre; easily reached: *Our house is very central for the shops and theatres. | The company is moving from its central location to new offices in the suburbs.* **3** [**(to)**] of the greatest importance; main: *The central aim of this government is social equality. | She played a central role in the negotiations. | His sudden disappearance was central to the plot of the book.* —**~ly** *adv* : *a centrally located office | a centrally heated house* (=with central heating) | *a centrally planed economy* (=one using central planning)

Central **1** a REGION in central Scotland, including the town of Stirling **2** one of the British television companies controlled by the ITC TRANSMITTING programmes to central England, esp. the Midlands

Central Af·ri·can Re·pub·lic /ˌ·· ˌ··· ·ˈ···/ [*the*] a country in central Africa; capital Bangui; population 2,841,000 (1989)

Central A·mer·i·ca /ˌ·· ·ˈ···/ a narrow piece of land joining North and South America, and consisting of Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama

central bank /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* a state-owned bank which controls the amount of money available and the general banking systems in a country, and influences interest rates. In Britain the central bank is the Bank of England. In the US it is the Federal Reserve Bank.

Central Belt /ˌ·· ˈ·/ [*the*] the industrial area in Scotland between Glasgow and Edinburgh

Central Crim·i·nal Court /ˌ·· ˈ··· ˌ·/ [*the*] see OLD BAILEY

Central Day·light Time /ˌ·· ˈ·· ·/ *abbrev.* **CDT**— *n* [U] *AmE* the time used in the summer months in the Central TIME ZONE of the US

central gov·ern·ment /ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n* [C;U] the government of the country as a whole from a political centre, as opposed to local government

central heat·ing /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [U] a system of heating buildings in which heat is produced and controlled at a single point and carried by pipes to the various parts of the building by hot air or water. Many private houses in Britain and the US have central heating.

Central In·tel·li·gence A·gen·cy /ˌ·· ·ˈ··· ˌ···/ see CIA

cen·tral·is·m /ˈsentrəlɪzəm/ *n* [U] the practice of or principle of bringing something under the control of the central body of an organization, such as a political or educational system

cen·tral·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /ˈsentrəlaɪz/ *v* [T] to bring under central control: *The process of economic planning has been centralized.* —see also DECENTRALIZE —**-ization** /ˌsentrəlaɪˈzeɪʃən‖-trələ-/ *n* [U]

central lock·ing /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [U] a system of operating the locks on a vehicle by one door only; the others then lock or unlock at the same time: *My new car has central locking.*

Central Mosque /ˌ·· ˈ·/ [*the*] the main Muslim place of worship in Britain, in Regents Park, London

central nerv·ous sys·tem /ˌ·· ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* the part of the NERVOUS SYSTEM which consists of the brain and the SPINAL CORD

Central Of·fice /ˌ·· ˈ··/ the central office of the Conservative Party in Britain

Central Of·fice of In·for·ma·tion /ˌ·· ˌ·· · ··ˈ··/ [*the*] a British government organization which prepares and publishes (PUBLISH) information about Britain

Central Park /ˌ·· ˈ·/ the main city park in New York City. It is a popular place for New Yorkers but also known to be a dangerous place to go at night. —see colour map on page 1376

central plan·ning /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [U] the system of arranging the economic situation esp. of a COMMUNIST country by means of orders from a central government

Central Pow·ers /ˌ·· ˈ··/ [*the* + P] Austria-Hungary, Germany, Bulgaria, and Turkey, the countries that opposed the Allies in the First World War

central pro·ces·sing u·nit /ˌ·· ˈ··· ˌ··/ (*abbrev.* **CPU**) *n* the most important controlling part of a computer system where the main operations are performed —see also MICROPROCESSOR, and see picture at COMPUTER

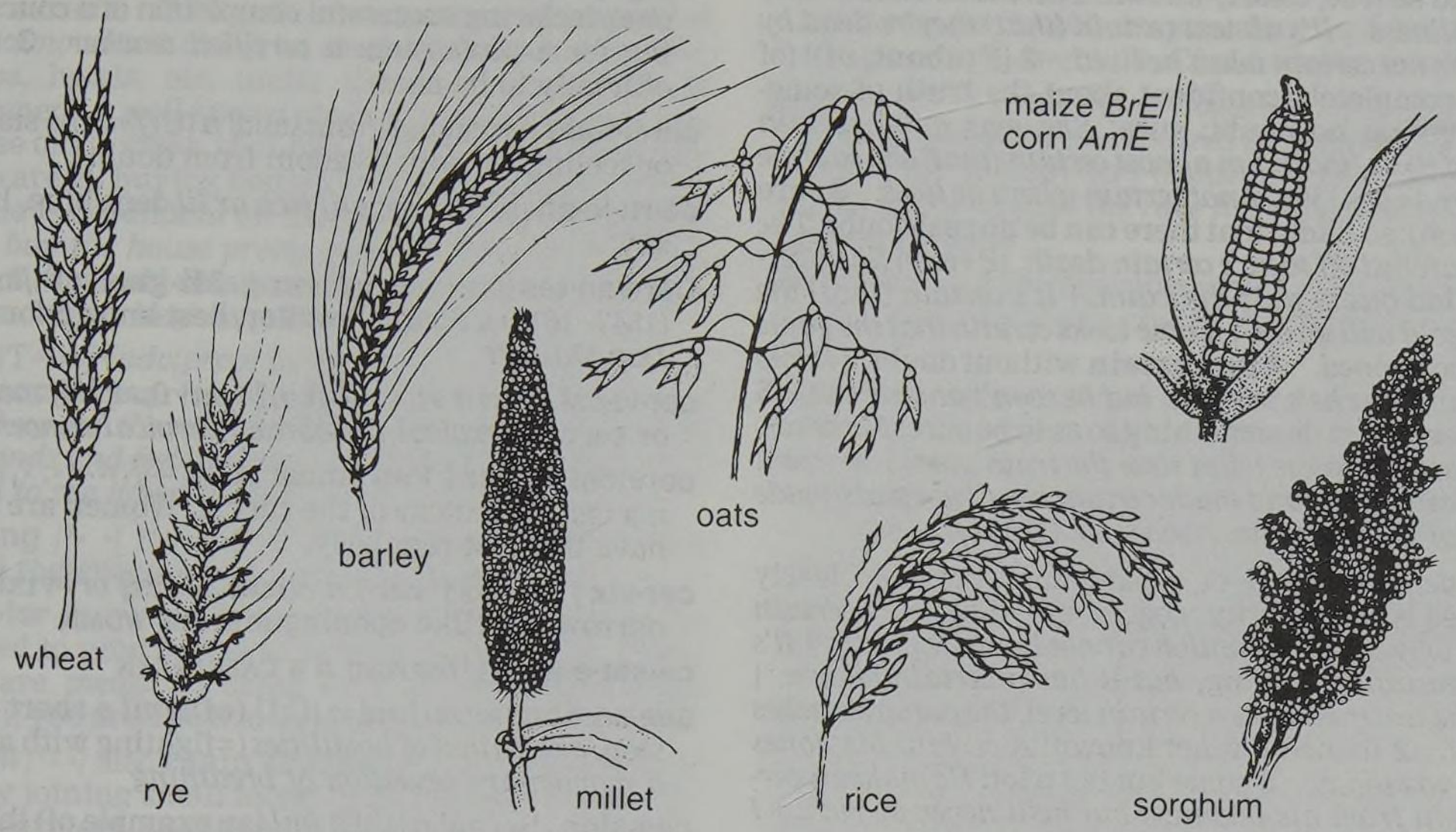
central res·er·va·tion /ˌ·· ··ˈ··/ *n BrE* ‖ **median strip** *AmE* — a thin area of land running down the middle of a large road, to keep traffic apart

Central Stan·dard Time /ˌ·· ˈ·· ˌ·/ also **Central Time**, *abbrev.* **CST**— *n* [U] *AmE* the time used for Autumn to Spring in the Central Time Zone of the US

cen·tre[1] *BrE* ‖ **-ter** *AmE* /ˈsentəʳ/ *n* **1** [C **(of)**] a middle part or point; point equally distant from all sides; the exact middle, esp. the point around which a circle is drawn: *Although London is Britain's capital it is not at the centre of the country. | I like chocolates with soft centres. | the high cost of land in the centre of the city* —see also DEAD CENTRE **2** [C] **a** the main or most active area in relation to a particular activity: *Hong Kong is a major banking and financial centre. | the centre of the shipbuilding industry* **b** a place or building intended for a stated activity: *a sports/leisure centre | a youth training centre | the World Trade Center in New York* —see also CONFERENCE CENTRE, DETENTION CENTRE, JOB CENTRE **3** [C] an area where a large number of people live: *The missiles are aimed at military targets, not at urban centres/centres of population.* **4** [*the*+S] a middle position, in politics, not supporting EXTREME[1] (3) ideas; a MODERATE[1] (3) political position: *Political parties often move to the centre just before an election. | Her political views are slightly* **left of centre.** **5** [C] (in games like football) a player who plays in or near the middle of the field —compare BACK[1] (6), FORWARD[5]; see also COST CENTRE, MUSIC CENTRE; see MIDDLE (USAGE)

centre[2] *BrE* ‖ **-ter** *AmE v* [T] to place in or at the centre: *to centre a picture on the wall*

centre (sthg.) **on/upon/round/around** sbdy./sthg. *phr*



v [T *usu. pass.*] to (cause to) have as a main subject or area of concern: *The dispute centres on the question of over-time pay.* | *Our thoughts were centred on the girl who had died.* | *His interests are centred round his family.*

centre court /ˈ·· ˌ·/ (*often cap.*) the main tennis court at WIMBLEDON, where the best players play their matches in front of seated crowds: *Navratilova is on centre court at 2.00.*

cen·tre·fold -terfold *AmE* /ˈsentəfəʊld ‖ -tər-/ *n* (a picture covering all of) the two facing pages in the middle of a magazine. The word is esp. used to describe a picture of a young woman with no clothes on, photographed in a position which is intended to be sexually exciting.

centre for·ward /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n becoming rare* (in football) an attacking player who plays in the centre of the field

centre of grav·i·ty /ˌ·· · ˈ···/ *n* that point in any object on which it will balance

centre par·ty /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a political party which is seen as having a MODERATE[1] (3) political position

cen·tre·piece -terpiece *AmE* /ˈsentəpiːs‖-ər-/ *n* **1** a decoration, esp. an arrangement of flowers, placed in the middle of a table **2** [**(of)**] the most noticeable, attractive, or important part of a larger whole: *These tax cuts are the centrepiece of their economic programme.*

centre stage /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] the place or person to which everyone's attention is drawn

cen·tri·fu·gal /ˌsentrɪˈfjuːgəl◂, senˈtrɪfjʊgəl‖senˈtrɪfjʊgəl/ *adj tech* tending to move in a direction away from the centre: *centrifugal force* —opposite **centripetal**

cen·tri·fuge /ˈsentrɪfjuːdʒ/ *n* an apparatus for spinning a container round very quickly so that the heavier liquids and any solids are forced to the outer edge or bottom of the container

cen·trip·e·tal /senˈtrɪpɪtl/ *adj tech* tending to move in a direction towards the centre: *centripetal force* —opposite **centrifugal**

cen·trist /ˈsentrɪst/ *n, adj* (of) a person who supports the CENTRE[1] (4) in politics; MODERATE

cen·tu·ri·on /ˌsenˈtjʊəriən‖-ˈtʊə-/ *n* an army officer of ancient Rome, commanding a company of about 100 soldiers

cen·tu·ry /ˈsentʃəri/ *n* **1** a period of 100 years **2** (*sometimes cap.*) any of the 100-year periods counted forwards or backwards from the supposed year of Christ's birth: *The period 1900 –1999 is the twentieth century.* | *There have been two World Wars during this century.* (=since 1900) | *He was born* **at the turn of the century**. (=about 1900) **3** 100 runs made by one cricket player in one INNINGS: *He made|scored a century.*

CEO /ˌsiː iː ˈəʊ/ *n esp. AmE* **1** Chief Executive Officer; the person in charge of a large company: *She was appointed CEO in March.* **2** the President of the US

ce·phal·ic /sɪˈfælɪk/ *adj* [A] *tech* of or connected with the head

ce·ram·ics /sɪˈræmɪks/ *n* **1** [U] the making of pots, TILES, etc., by shaping pieces of clay and baking them until they are hard **2** [P] articles produced in this way: *an exhibition of ceramics and sculpture* —**ceramic** *adj* : *ceramic tiles in the bathroom*

Cer·be·rus /ˈsɜːbərəs‖ˈsɜːr-/ in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, the three-headed dog who guarded the entrance to Hades

ce·re·al /ˈsɪəriəl/ *n* **1** [C] a plant grown to produce grain for food, such as wheat, rice, etc.: *Oats and barley are cereals.* | *cereal crops* **2** [C;U] a food made from grain. In Britain and the US cereals such as CORNFLAKES are often eaten for breakfast.

cer·e·bel·lum /ˌserɪˈbeləm/ *n med* a part of the brain below the cerebrum, concerned with controlling movements of the body

cer·e·bral /ˈserɪbrəl‖səˈriː-, ˈserɪ-/ *adj* **1** [*no comp.*] *med* of or connected with the brain: *a cerebral hemorrhage* **2** *esp. fml or humor* using or needing effort of the mind rather than the feelings; (too) INTELLECTUAL: *a rather cerebral person|film* —~**ly** *adv*

cerebral pal·sy /ˌ··· ˈ··‖·ˌ·· ˈ··, ˌ··· ˈ··/ *n* [U] a disease caused by damage to the brain before or during birth. People with cerebral palsy have difficulty in controlling their muscles and in speaking —see also CONDUCTIVE EDUCATION

cer·e·bra·tion /ˌserɪˈbreɪʃən/ *n* [U] *fml or humor* the working of the brain; the act of thinking

ce·re·brum /səˈriːbrəm/ *n* **-brums** *or* **-bra** /brə/ *med* the front part of the brain, concerned with thought and decision

cer·e·mo·ni·al[1] /ˌserɪˈməʊniəl◂/ *adj* marked by or done according to ceremony: *the President's ceremonial duties* —~**ly** *adv*

ceremonial[2] *n* [C;U] (a) special ceremony for a particular event: *religious ceremonial*

cer·e·mo·ni·ous /ˌserɪˈməʊniəs◂/ *adj* paying great attention to ceremony and formal behaviour; extremely formal or polite —see also UNCEREMONIOUS — ~**ly** *adv* — ~**ness** *n* [U]

cer·e·mo·ny /ˈserɪməni‖-məʊni/ *n* **1** [C] a special formal, solemn, and long-established action or set of actions used for marking an important social or religious event: *a wedding ceremony* | *The new graduates receive their degrees at a special ceremony.* —see also MASTER OF CEREMONIES **2** [U] the special order and formal behaviour demanded by custom on particular occasions: *The queen was crowned with due ceremony.* —see also **stand on ceremony** (STAND[1] (24))

ce·rise /səˈriːz‖səˈriːs, -ˈriːz/ *adj* clear pinkish red in colour —**cerise** *n* [U]

cert[1] /sɜːt‖sɜːrt/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] *BrE infml* a certainty; something considered certain to happen or succeed: *It's a (dead) cert that this horse will win the race.*

cert[2] *written abbrev. for:* CERTIFICATE

cer·tain[1] /ˈsɜːtn‖ˈsɜːrtn/ *adj* **1** proved beyond all doubt to

exist or to be true; clearly known: *There is no certain cure for this illness.* | *It's almost certain (that) they're dead by now.* | *It's not certain when he lived.* **2** [F **(about, of)**] (of people) completely confident about the truth of something; having no doubt; sure: *She was quite certain (about/of it).* [+*(that)*] *I'm almost certain (that) she saw me yesterday.* [+*wh-*] *We're not certain where he lives.* **3** sure (to happen); so likely that there can be no real doubt: *The army marched off to face certain death.* [F+*to-v*] *She's certain to find out/to pass the exam.* | *It's certain (that) the price of gold will go up.* | *It now looks certain that the game will be postponed.* **4 for certain** without doubt: *I know for certain that he's in there, but he won't answer me.* **5 make certain** to do something so as to be sure: *Make certain (that) you know what time the train goes.* | *We went to the theatre early and made certain we all got seats/made certain of getting seats.* —see SURE (USAGE)

certain[2] *determiner* **1** of a particular but not clearly described type; quantity, degree, etc.: *There are certain reasons why this information cannot be made public.* | *It's not a beautiful building, but it has a certain charm.* | *When the water reaches a certain level, the pump switches itself off.* **2** named but not known: *A certain Ms Jones phoned you today.* **3** some but not a lot: *He makes a certain profit from his business but he'll never be rich.* | *I agree with you to a certain extent, but...*

certain[3] *pron* [+**of**] *fml* certain ones; some but not all: *Certain of these questions have never been answered.*

cer·tain·ly /ˈsɜːtnli‖ˈsɜːr-/ *adv* without doubt; of course: *He certainly works very hard.* | *"Will you help me?" "Certainly (I will)."* | *"Shall I drive?" "Certainly not!"*

▷USAGE Compare **certainly** and **definitely.** 1 **Definitely** is used to give strength to a statement: *He's* **definitely** *the best player in the team.* **Certainly** is often used when there is some doubt left in the speaker's mind: *It's* **certainly** *very beautiful, but it's far too expensive.* Sometimes the doubts are not expressed openly but only suggested: *"He's a brilliant student, isn't he?" "Well, he* **certainly** *works very hard."* (=but I do not agree that he is brilliant) 2 **Definitely** is more common than **certainly** in reply to a request for information: *"Is he good at his job?" "Oh yes,* **definitely.**" 3 **Certainly** (like *of course*) but not **definitely** can be used in reply to a request: *"Can you help me with my homework?" "Yes,* **certainly**." —see also SURELY (USAGE)◁

cer·tain·ty /ˈsɜːtnti‖ˈsɜːr-/ *n* **1** [C] also **cert** *BrE infml*— something that is certain to be true or certain to happen: *It's a dead* (=complete) *certainty that this horse will win the race.* | *I know for a certainty that the company has been bought up.* **2** [(**with**) U] the state of being certain; freedom from doubt: *I can't say with (any) certainty what my plans are.*

cer·ti·fi·able /ˈsɜːtɪˌfaɪəbəl‖ˈsɜːr-/ *adj* that can or should be certified (CERTIFY), esp. as being mad

cer·tif·i·cate /səˈtɪfɪkət‖sər-/ *n* a DOCUMENT (=official paper) giving a statement made by an official person that a fact or facts are true: *a birth/marriage/death certificate* | *a certificate of health*

cer·tif·i·cat·ed /səˈtɪfɪkeɪtˌəd‖sər-/ *adj esp. BrE* having successfully completed a course of training for a profession: *a certificated nurse*

certificate of de·pos·it /ˌ··· · ·ˈ··/ *n* a document proving that its owner has placed a specific sum of money in a bank, and that the bank has agreed to pay a specific rate of INTEREST

Certificate of Pre-Vo·ca·tion·al Ed·u·cation /ˌ··· · · ·ˌ··· ··ˈ··/ (*abbrev.* **CPVE**) *n* an examination taken by pupils in Britain who want to stay on at school after taking their GCSE, to prepare for a VOCATIONAL course or for work, rather than for A-level or AS-level examinations

certified mail /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* [U] *AmE* mail sent by RECORDED DELIVERY

certified milk /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* [U] *AmE for* ATTESTED MILK

certified pub·lic ac·coun·tant /ˌ··· ˌ·· ·ˈ··/ *n AmE for* CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

cer·ti·fy /ˈsɜːtˌəfaɪ‖ˈsɜːr-/ *v* [T] **1** to declare that (something) is correct or true, esp. after some kind of test: *The bank certified my accounts.* [+*obj+adj*] *The doctor certified the prisoner insane.* [+*that*] *I certify that I witnessed the signing of this document.* **2** to give a CERTIFICATE to (someone) declaring successful completion of a course of training for a profession: *a certified teacher* **3** to declare officially to be mad

cer·ti·tude /ˈsɜːtˌətjuːd‖ˈsɜːrtˌətuːd/ *n* [U] *fml* the state of being or feeling certain; freedom from doubt

ce·ru·le·an /səˈruːliən/ *adj tech or lit* deep blue, like a clear sky

Cer·van·tes /sɜːˈvæntiːz‖sɜːr-/, **Mi·guel de** /mɪˈgwel də/ (1547–1616) a Spanish writer, best known for the NOVEL *Don Quixote*

cer·vi·cal /ˈsɜːvɪkəl, səˈvaɪkəl‖ˈsɜːrvɪkəl/ *adj med* of a neck or cervix: *cervical vertebrae* | *cervical cancer*

cervical smear ‖ **Pap smear** *AmE* — /ˌ··· ˈ·, ·ˌ·· ˈ·‖ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* a test for CANCER of the cervix. Women are advised to have this test regularly.

cer·vix /ˈsɜːvɪks‖ˈsɜːr-/ *n* **-vices** /vɪsiːz/ *or* **-vixes** *med* the narrow necklike opening into the WOMB

ce·sar·e·an /sɪˈzeəriən/ *n* a CAESAREAN

ces·sa·tion /seˈseɪʃən/ *n* [C;U (**of**)] *fml* a short pause or a stop: *a cessation of hostilities* (=fighting with an enemy) | *a momentary cessation of breathing*

ces·sion /ˈseʃən/ *n* [C;U] *fml* (an example of) the giving of land, property, or rights —see also CEDE

cess·pit /ˈsesˌpɪt/ also **cess·pool** /ˈsesˌpuːl/— *n* an underground container or hole, in which waste from a building, esp. body waste (SEWAGE), is collected

ce·tac·ean /sɪˈteɪʃən/ *adj, n tech* (of) a fishlike MAMMAL (=an animal which feeds its young on milk) which lives in water, such as a WHALE

Cey·lon /sɪˈlɒn‖-ˈlɑːn/ the former name for SRI LANKA

Ce·zanne /sɪˈzæn‖seɪˈzɑːn/, **Paul** /ˈpɔl/ (1839–1906) a French painter who influenced the development of CUBISM and ABSTRACT art

cf *written abbrev. for:* compare

CFC /ˌsiː ef ˈsiː/ also **chlorofluorocarbon**— *n* a gas used in FRIDGES and AEROSOL cans, now believed to be responsible for damaging the OZONE LAYER. Many products now avoid using CFCs and usu. have **"CFC-free"** written on them.

Chab·lis /ˈʃæbliː‖ʃæˈbliː/ *n* [C;U] a very dry white wine produced in N Burgundy, France

cha-cha /ˈtʃɑː tʃɑː/ also **cha-cha-cha** /ˌ·· ˈ·/— *n* **-chas** a fast spirited dance of South American origin

Chad /tʃæd/ a country in N central Africa; capital Ndjamena; population 5,538,000 (1989)

chafe /tʃeɪf/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) become sore or worn by rubbing: *Her new shoes chafed her feet.* **2** [T] to make (part of the body) warm by rubbing **3** [I (**at, under**)] to become or be impatient or annoyed: *They are beginning to chafe at/under these restrictions.* —see also **chafe at the bit** (BIT[2])

chaff[1] /tʃɑːf‖tʃæf/ *n* [U] **1** the HUSKS (=outer seed covers) separated from grain before it is used as food **2** dried grasses and plant stems used as food for farm animals —see also **the wheat from the chaff** (WHEAT)

chaff[2] *v* [T] *old-fash infml* to make fun of (someone) in a friendly way

chaff[3] *n* [U] *old-fash infml* friendly joking; BANTER

chaf·finch /ˈtʃæfɪntʃ/ *n* a small bird with a cheerful song, common in Europe

chafing dish /ˈ·· ·/ *n* ‖ also **fondue** *AmE* — a container with a heater under it, used for cooking or keeping food warm, esp. at the table

Cha·gall /ʃæˈgæl/, **Marc** /mɑːk‖mɑːrk/ (1887–1985) a Russian artist who lived in France and painted in bright colours

chag·rin[1] /ˈʃægrɪn‖ʃəˈgrɪn/ *n* [U] *fml* annoyance and disappointment, caused by failure or unfulfilled hopes: *Much* **to his chagrin**, *he was not offered the job.*

chagrin[2] *v* [T] to cause to feel chagrin; disappoint greatly

chain[1] /tʃeɪn/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a length of) usu. metal rings, connected to or fitted into one another, used for fastening, supporting, decorating, etc.: *The bridge was supported by heavy iron chains hanging from two towers.* | *The Mayoress wore her* **chain of office.** (=her official chain) |

She always wears a gold chain round her neck. —see picture at BICYCLE **2** [C (**of**)] **a** a number of connected things: *a mountain chain* | *a chain of events* **b** a number of shops, hotels, etc. under the same ownership or management: *a well-known chain of fast-food restaurants* —see also CHAIN STORE, FOOD CHAIN **3** [C] a number of people who are all buying houses from one another, so that each sale is dependent on the previous one: *I should be able to buy the house pretty quickly, since I'm not in a chain.* **4** [C] an old measurement of length —see TABLE 2 **5 in chains** kept in prison or as a slave

chain[2] *v* [T+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] to limit the freedom of (someone or something) (as if) with a chain: *The dogs were chained up for the night.* | *The kidnappers chained the girl's hands and feet together.* | *With a sick husband, she's chained to the house all day.*

chain gang /ˈ· ·/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] a group of prisoners chained together for work outside their prison.

chain let·ter /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a letter sent to several people who are asked to send copies to several more people. Chain letters are meant to bring luck or sometimes great wealth, if you are asked to send money to people on a list.

chain mail /ˈ· ·/ also **chain ar·mour** /ˈ· ˌ··/– *n* [U] armour made by joining small metal rings together into a protective garment, used esp. in former times

chain re·ac·tion /ˌ· ·ˈ··/ *n* a number of related events or chemical changes, each of which causes the next

chain saw /ˈ· ·/ *n* a SAW made up of a circular chain fitted with teeth and driven by a motor —compare CIRCULAR SAW; and see picture at SAW and at TOOL

chain-smoke /ˈ· ·/ *v* [I;T] to smoke (cigarettes) continually, esp. lighting each new one from the previous one —**-smoker** *n*

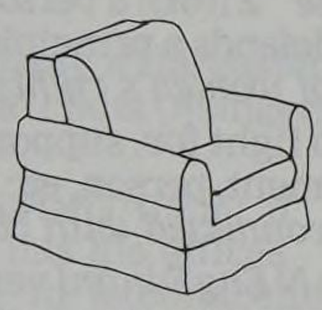
chain stitch /ˈ· ·/ *n* [C;U] a way of sewing in which each new stitch is pulled through the last one

chain store /ˈ· ·/ also **multiple store** *esp. BrE*– *n* (any of) a group of usu. large shops of the same kind owned by one organization —see also CHAIN[1] (2)

chairs



armchair





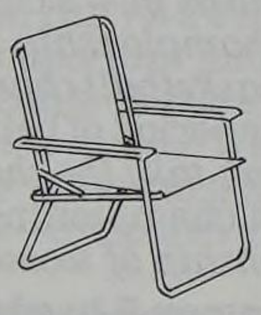
rocking chair



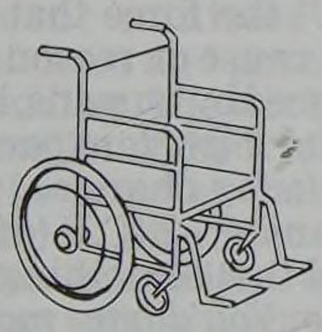
deckchair *BrE*/ beachchair *AmE*



swivel chair



garden chair *BrE*/ lawn chair *AmE*



wheelchair



high chair

chair[1] /tʃeəʳ/ *n* **1** [C] a piece of furniture for one person to sit on, which usually has a back, a seat, four legs, and sometimes arms: *sitting on a chair at her desk* | *sitting in a comfortable chair watching TV* —see also ARMCHAIR, BATH CHAIR, DECKCHAIR, HIGH CHAIR, WHEELCHAIR **2** [C *usu. sing.*] (the office, position, or official seat of) a CHAIRPERSON, esp. one in charge of a meeting: *Please address your remarks to the chair.* | *Who will be* **in the chair** *at tomorrow's meeting?* | *She's the chair of the housing committee.* —see CHAIRPERSON **3** [C (**of**)] the position of PROFESSOR: *She holds a chair of chemistry in the university.* **4** [*the*+S] *infml* (esp. in the US) the punishment of death by means of an ELECTRIC CHAIR **5** [C] *old use for* SEDAN CHAIR

chair[2] *v* [T] **1** to be CHAIRPERSON of (a meeting): *The commission of inquiry was chaired by a well-known judge.* **2** *BrE* to lift up and carry (someone), as a sign of admiration: *When he won the race his supporters chaired him round the field.*

chair lift /ˈ· ·/ *n* an apparatus which carries people up and down steep slopes in chairs that hang from a moving wire

chair·man /ˈtʃeəmən‖ˈtʃeər-/ *n* **-men** /mən/ **1** a chairperson, esp. a male one: *He was elected chairman of the education committee.* —see PERSON (USAGE) **2** the head, usu. male, of a large organization or company: *The chairman of British Rail/American Airlines* **3** (in former times) a man employed to help carry a SEDAN CHAIR

chair·man·ship /ˈtʃeəmənʃɪp‖ˈtʃeər-/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] the rank, position, or period in office of a chairman: *a commission of inquiry under the chairmanship of a well-known judge*

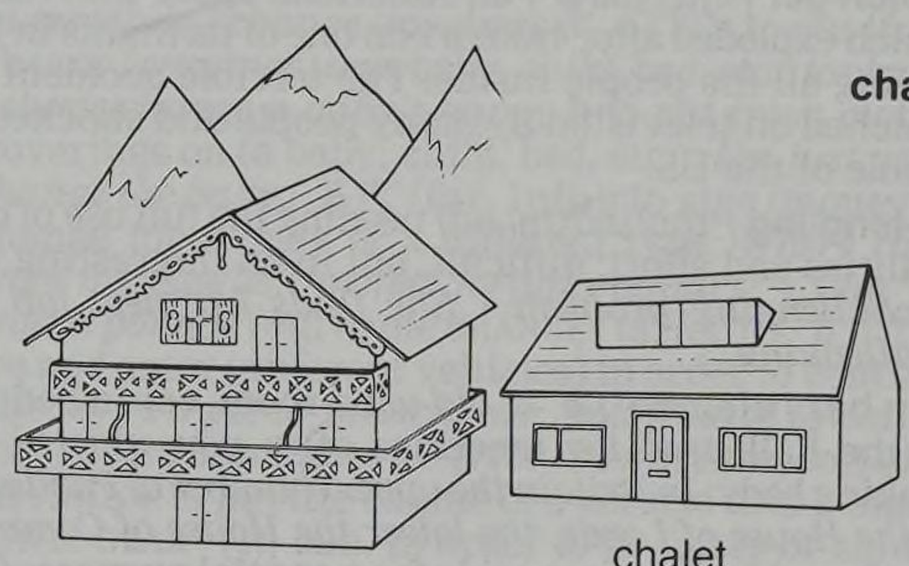
chair·per·son /ˈtʃeəˌpɜːsən‖ˈtʃeərˌpɜːrsən/ *n* a person who is in charge of a meeting or who directs the work of a committee or organization —see PERSON (USAGE)

chair·wom·an /ˈtʃeəˌwʊmən‖ˈtʃeər-/ *n* **-women** /ˌwɪmɪn/ a female chairperson

chaise /ʃeɪz/ *n* **1** a light two-wheeled or four-wheeled carriage, used in former times, pulled by one horse **2** *AmE* a CHAISE LONGUE

chaise longue /ˌʃeɪz ˈlɒŋ‖-ˈlɔːŋ/ *n* **chaises longues** *or* **chaise longues** (*same pronunciation*) *Fr* **1** a COUCH, with an arm at only one end, on which one can sit and stretch out one's legs **2** *AmE* a long chair for sitting back in

chalets



Swiss chalet

chalet

chal·et /ˈʃæleɪ‖ʃæˈleɪ/ *n* **1** a usu. wooden house or hut with a steeply sloping roof, esp. common in Switzerland **2** *esp BrE* a small house (BUNGALOW) or hut, esp. in a holiday camp —compare LODGE[2] (3)

chalet par·ty /ˈ·· ˌ··‖·ˈ· ˌ··/ *n BrE* a skiing (SKI) holiday during which a number of people, esp. young, single and wealthy people, stay in a chalet. The travel company employs others to do the cooking and cleaning.

chal·ice /ˈtʃælɪs/ *n* a gold or silver decorated cup, used esp. to hold wine in Christian religious services

chalk[1] /tʃɔːk/ *n* **1** [U] a soft white or grey rock (LIMESTONE) originally formed in ancient times from the shells of very small sea animals: *chalk hills* | *Some plants will not grow on chalk.* **2** [C;U] (a piece of) this substance, white or coloured, used for writing or drawing: *The teacher wrote on the blackboard with a piece of chalk.* | *a box of coloured chalks* **3 as different as chalk and cheese** *BrE infml* completely unlike each other

chalk[2] *v* [T (**on,** UP)] to write, mark, or draw with chalk: *to chalk (up) political slogans on walls*

chalk sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] to describe in a general way, in words or with drawings: *The general chalked out his plan of attack.*

chalk sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] *infml* **1** to succeed in getting (esp. points in a game): *Our team has chalked up another victory.* **2** [(**to, against**)] to charge to, or record on, someone's account or one's own account: *Chalk up the drinks to me.* | *Anything you do wrong will be chalked up against you.*

chalk·board /ˈtʃɔːkbɔːd‖-bɔːrd/ *n AmE for* BLACKBOARD

chalk·y /ˈtʃɔːki/ *adj* of or like (white) chalk: *chalky soil* | *the chalky whiteness of his face* —**-iness** *n* [U]

chal·lenge[1] /ˈtʃælɨndʒ/ *v* [T] **1** [(**to**)] to invite (someone) to compete against one in a fight, match, etc.: *I challenged him to a game of tennis.* [+*obj*+*to-v*] *I challenge you to race me across the lake.* —compare DARE[1] (2) **2** to question the rightness, legality, etc., of; DISPUTE: *She challenged the authority of the court.* | *Traditional female roles are constantly being challenged by contemporary feminists.* **3** to test the abilities of (a person or thing); STIMULATE: *I only like to study something if it really challenges me.* [+*obj*+*to-v*] *The difficulty of putting our ideas into practice challenged us to find a new method.* **4** to stop and demand official proof of the name and intentions of (someone): *The sentry challenged the stranger.* **5** *law* to declare that one will not accept (a JUROR) before the beginning of a case —**-lenger** *n*

challenge[2] *n* **1** [C] an invitation to compete in a fight, match, etc.: *a challenge to a game of tennis* | *The president faces a challenge to his leadership from his deputy.* [+*to-v*] *He accepted his friend's challenge to swim across the river.* **2** [C] a questioning of the rightness, legality, etc., of something: *This new report represents a challenge to the accepted version of events.* **3** [C;U] (something with) the quality of testing strength, skill, or ability: *One of the biggest challenges facing the present government is that of creating new jobs and new industries.* | *I'm looking for a job with a bit more challenge.* **4** [C] a demand to stop and give proof of one's name, intentions, etc.: *The stranger was met with the challenge "Who goes there?"* **5** [C] *law* a statement that one will not accept a JUROR, made before the beginning of a case

chal·lenged /ˈtʃælɨndʒd/ *adj AmE euph* DISABLED, esp. in the stated way: [also *n*, *the*+P] *special facilities for the visually challenged* (=blind people, or those who cannot see well)

Chal·len·ger /ˈtʃælɨndʒəʳ/ an American space SHUTTLE[1] (2) which exploded after TAKEOFF on one of its flights in 1986, killing all the people inside. The terrible accident was watched on television by many people and shocked the whole of the US.

chal·leng·ing /ˈtʃælɨndʒɪŋ/ *adj* needing the full use of one's abilities and effort; difficult, but in an interesting way: *a challenging problem* | *She finds her new job very challenging.*

cham·ber /ˈtʃeɪmbəʳ/ *n* **1** *old use* a room, esp. a bedroom **2** (the hall used for meetings of) a usu. elected law-making body: *In Britain the upper chamber of Parliament is the House of Lords, the lower the House of Commons.* **3** [*often pl.*] a room set aside for a special purpose: *Cases not dealt with in court are sometimes heard in the judge's chambers.* **4** an enclosed space, esp. in a body or machine: *The heart has four chambers.* | *burial chambers* —see picture at GUN

Chamberlain



cham·ber·lain /ˈtʃeɪmbəlɨn‖-bər-/ *n* an important official who manages the affairs of a king's or nobleman's court with regard to cleaning, cooking, buying food, etc.

Chamberlain, Nev·ille /ˈnevɨl/ (1869–1940) a British Conservative politician and PRIME MINISTER at the beginning of the Second World War. He is generally thought to have been wrong to make an agreement with Hitler in Munich in 1938 and is remembered for using the phrase "Peace in our time". —see also MUNICH AGREEMENT

Chamberlain, Wilt (1936–) an American BASKETBALL player, known as **Wilt the Stilt** because of his height (2.16 metres). He set several records for the number of points he won.

cham·ber·maid /ˈtʃeɪmbəmeɪd‖-ər-/ *n* a female servant employed to clean and tidy bedrooms, esp. in a hotel

chamber mu·sic /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [U] music written for a small group of instruments and suitable for performance in a private home or small hall

chamber of com·merce /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] a group of businessmen, esp. in a particular town or area, working together for the purpose of improving trade

chamber of hor·rors /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ *n* a place in which very unpleasant or frightening objects can be seen, esp. the room which shows models of famous criminals and murders in Madame Tussaud's MUSEUM of WAXWORKS in London

chamber or·ches·tra /ˈ·· ˌ···/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] a small group of musicians, usu. with one player for each instrumental part

chamber pot /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a round container for liquid and solid body waste, usu. used in the bedroom and kept under the bed. Chamber pots are now usually used only by the old or sick. —compare BEDPAN, POTTY[2]

cha·me·le·on /kəˈmiːliən/ *n* **1** a small LIZARD that can change its colour to match its surroundings **2** someone who changes their behaviour, ideas, etc., to suit the situation

cham·ois[1] /ˈʃæmwɑː/ *n* **chamois** /ˈʃæmwɑːz/ a small wild goatlike animal from the mountains of Europe and SW Asia

cham·ois[2] /ˈʃæmi/ also **chamois leath·er** /ˈ·· ˌ··/, **cham·my** /ˈʃæmi/, **shammy**– *n* **chamois** /ˈʃæmiz/ [C;U] (a piece of) soft leather prepared from the skin of chamois, sheep, or goats and used for cleaning and polishing

cham·o·mile /ˈkæməmaɪl/ *n* [C;U] CAMOMILE

champ[1] /tʃæmp/ also **chomp**– *v* [I (**on, at**); T] (of a horse) to bite noisily: *The horse is champing (at) his hay.* —see also **champ at the bit** (BIT[2])

champ[2] *n infml for* CHAMPION[1] (1)

cham·pagne /ʃæmˈpeɪn/ also **cham·pers** /ˈʃæmpəz‖-ərz/ *BrE infml*– *n* [U] an expensive (French) white wine containing a lot of BUBBLES, usu. drunk on special occasions. Champagne used to be drunk only by the very rich, but now a lot of people occasionally drink it: *a champagne reception* (=at which champagne is served) —see also SPARKLING WINE

cham·pi·on[1] /ˈtʃæmpiən/ *n* **1** also **champ** *infml*– a person or animal that has won a competition of skill, strength, etc., esp. a sporting competition: *a tennis champion* | *the world chess champion* | *the* **reigning** *heavyweight boxing* **champion** (=the champion at the present time) | *a champion racehorse* **2** [(**of**)] a person who fights for, supports strongly, or defends a principle, movement, person, etc.: *a champion of women's rights*|*of the poor*

champion[2] *v* [T]+ to fight for, support strongly, or defend (a principle, movement, person, etc.): *He has championed numerous causes connected with civil liberties.*

champion[3] *adj, adv N EngE infml* very good or well: *"How do you feel?" "Champion, thanks!"*

cham·pi·on·ship /ˈtʃæmpiənʃɪp/ *n* **1** [C] also **championships** *pl.*– a competition held to find the champion: *The championship will be held tomorrow.* | *the European basketball championship* **2** [C] the position, title, rank, or period of being champion: *I don't think this new boxer can take the championship from him.* **3** [U (**of**)] the act of championing: *The party is well known for its championship of women's rights.*

Champs E·ly·sées /ˌʃɒnz eˈliːzeɪ‖ˌʃɑːnz ˌeɪliːˈzeɪ/ [*the*] an important street in Paris which leads up to the Arc de Triomphe (a national MONUMENT)

chance[1] /tʃɑːns‖tʃæns/ *n* **1** [U] the force that seems to make things happen without cause or reason, and that cannot be controlled or influenced by humans; luck; good or bad fortune: *Chance plays an important part in many card games.* | *It happened quite* **by chance.** | *Have you got a spare stamp* **by any chance? 2** [C;U (**of**)] (a) possibility; (degree of) likelihood that something will happen, esp. something desirable: *You'd have more chance of catching the train if you got a bus to the station instead of walking.* | *The withdrawal of the American from the competition has greatly increased the Italian's chances of success.* [+(*that*)] *There's some chance|a good chance that she'll be released without being charged.* | *There's* **an outside chance** (=a small chance) *that he'll win.* | *She pinned her hopes on the chance of getting the part.* | *The theatre was almost fully booked, but he went* **on the off chance** (=because of the unlikely possibility) *of getting a ticket.* | *You don't* **stand a chance** *of winning the case.* (=there is no likelihood that you will) | *I think I'm* **in with a chance** *of winning this competition.* | *Is there any chance of|What are the chances of getting an interview with her?* |

Not a chance|No chance! (=certainly not) | (*infml*) **Chances are** (=it is likely) *she's already heard the news.| I'd say she's got about* **a fifty-fifty chance** *of passing.* (=it is equally likely that she will pass as that she will fail)| *It was a* **chance in a million** *that he should have broken his leg on that particular day.* (=he was extremely unlucky) **3** [C (**of**)] a situation that is favourable for a particular purpose; OPPORTUNITY: *I never miss a chance of playing football.* [+*to-v*] *He had no chance to apologize.| The long spell of dry weather gave us a chance to paint the house. | Those poor children haven't got a* **chance in life.** | *If I give you a* **second chance** *will you promise to be good? | You should accept – you may never get another chance. | The offer of a free trip round the world is* **the chance of a lifetime.** **4** [C; U (**of**)] (a) risk: *The rope might break, but that's a chance we'll have to take! | There's always an element of chance* (=some risk) *in buying stocks and shares. | Let's find another place to park – I don't want to* **take the chance** *of getting a fine.*

▷USAGE Compare **chance, opportunity,** and **occasion.** 1 Both **chance** and **opportunity** can mean "a time suitable for doing something you want to do": *I'll have a* **chance**/*an* **opportunity** *to visit the Louvre when I'm in Paris.* 2 You can use **chance,** but not **opportunity,** to talk about possibility alone: *There is a* **chance** (=a possibility) *that I'll see him.* 3 An **occasion** is either a moment when something happens: *I was punished by the teacher on several* **occasions** or a reason: *I did not wish to go to Paris, and had no* **occasion** (*fml*) *to go.* (=no reason to go)◁

chance[2] *v* [*not in progressive forms*] **1** [T] *fml* to take a chance with; risk: *to chance all one's money on a game of cards* **2** [I+*to-v*; *it*+I+*that*] *fml* to take place by chance; happen by accident: *She chanced to be in the park when I was there. | It chanced that we were both travelling on the same plane.* **3 chance it/chance one's luck/chance one's arm** *infml* to take a chance of succeeding, even though failure is possible: *The police may catch us, but we'll just have to chance it/chance our luck.*

chance on/upon sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] to meet or find by chance: *She chanced on some valuable documents when she was cleaning out the attic.*

chance[3] *adj* [A *no comp.*] accidental; unplanned: *a chance meeting*

chan·cel /ˈtʃɑːnsəl‖ˈtʃæn-/ *n* the eastern part of a church, where the priests and CHOIR (=singers) usu. sit –see picture at CHURCH

chan·cel·ler·y /ˈtʃɑːnsələri‖ˈtʃæn-/ *n* **1** the building in which a chancellor has his offices **2** [+*sing./pl. v*] the officials who work in a chancellor's office **3** also **chancery**– the offices of an official representative (AMBASSADOR or CONSUL) of a foreign country

chan·cel·lor /ˈtʃɑːnsələʳ‖ˈtʃæn-/ *n* **1** (*often cap.*) **a** a state or legal official of high rank: *The most important judge in Britain is the* **Lord Chancellor**. **b** (in some countries) the chief minister: *Herr Willy Brandt, the former West German chancellor* **2** see CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER **3** the official head of various universities –compare VICE-CHANCELLOR

Chancellor of the Ex·cheq·uer /ˌ··· ··· ˈ··/ also **Chancellor**– *n* the British government minister in charge of taxes and government spending. The work of the Chancellor of the Exchequer is the same as that of the Finance Minister in many other countries. –see also BUDGET[1] (2), BUDGET DAY

Chancellor of the Exchequer



chan·ce·ry /ˈtʃɑːnsəri‖ˈtʃæn-/ *n* **1** (in Britain) the Lord Chancellor's division of the High Court of Justice **2** an office for the collection and safe-keeping of official papers **3** a CHANCELLERY (3)

chanc·y /ˈtʃɑːnsi‖ˈtʃænsi/ *adj infml* risky; of uncertain result: *That was a chancy thing to do; you could have been killed. | We may be able to get tickets but it's a bit chancy.* **–-iness** *n* [U]

chan·de·lier /ˌʃændəˈlɪəʳ/ *n* a usu. large branched decorative holder for candles or electric lights, usu. hanging from the CEILING

chand·ler /ˈtʃɑːndləʳ‖ˈtʃæn-/ *n old use* a person who makes or sells candles –see also SHIP'S CHANDLER

Chandler, Ray·mond /ˈreɪmənd/ (1888–1959) an American writer whose most famous character was the PRIVATE DETECTIVE Philip Marlowe

Cha·nel /ʃəˈnel/, **Co·co** /ˈkəʊkəʊ/ (1883–1971) a French fashion designer (DESIGN) known esp. for her 'little black dress' as well as other clothing and PERFUMES *like* **Chanel No. 5**

change[1] /tʃeɪndʒ/ *v* **1** [I;T (**from, to**)] to make or become different; give, or begin to have, a different form, nature, or character: *In autumn the leaves change from green to brown. | Don't start moving until the traffic lights change (to green). | She's changed a lot since I last saw her. | His attitudes have changed little despite the events of the last few years. | They've changed the time of our lesson. | The discovery of oil there has changed the whole character of the area. | the rapidly-changing world of micro technology* **2** [T (**for**)] to give, take, or put something in place of (something else, usu. of the same kind); exchange: *Her new dress didn't fit so she took it back to the shop and changed it (for another). | She changed her books at the library. | He's changed jobs|changed his job.* (=got a new job) | *The teams changed sides|changed over|changed round* (=each went to the opposite side) *at half time. | Let's change the subject.* (=talk about something else) | *I wouldn't* **change places with** *her for anything.* (=I wouldn't like to be in her situation.) | *The room looks much better now you've changed it round|changed things round.* (=moved the furniture, etc., into different positions) **3** [I (**into, out of**); T] to put (different clothes) on oneself: *I'm just going to change out of this suit|change into something more comfortable. | Can you wait five minutes while I change (my dress)?* **4** [T] **a** to put (fresh clothes or coverings) on a baby, child, bed, etc.: *to change the sheets|change a baby's nappy* **b** to put fresh clothes or coverings on (a baby, child, bed, etc.): *I'm just going to change the baby.* **5** [T (**for, into**)] to give (money) in exchange for money of a different type: *Where can I change my English money for|into dollars? | Can you change a pound?* (=give me CHANGE[2] (5) for it) **6** [I;T] to leave and enter (different vehicles) in order to continue a journey: *To get to Manchester, you'll have to change (trains) at Birmingham.* **7** [I (UP, DOWN, **into, to**)] ‖also **shift** *AmE*– to put the engine of a vehicle into a higher or lower GEAR[1] (1), usu. in order to go faster or slower: *Change into second gear when you go up the hill. | Change down before going up the hill and then change up at the top.* **8 change gear(s)** ‖also **shift gear(s)** *AmE*– to make a change in speed and power by putting the engine of a vehicle into a different GEAR[1] (3): *Change gear at the bottom of the hill. |* (fig.) *He began his speech quite formally, but then changed gear and told some jokes.* **9 change hands** to go from the ownership of one person to another: *This house has changed hands three times in the last two years.* **10 change one's mind** to form a new opinion or wish: *I used to think she was clever but I've changed my mind. | I wish you'd stop changing your mind.* **11 change one's spots** (*usu. in negatives*) to change one's character, habits, or way of life **12 change one's tune** to change one's opinion, decision, etc., and so act in a different way: *He said he would never speak to me again but he'll soon change his tune.* **13 change step** (when marching in a group) to move from keeping time with one foot to keeping time with the other –compare EXCHANGE

change into *phr v* [T] **1** (**change into** sbdy./sthg.) to become (something different): *When the prince kissed the cat it changed into a beautiful princess.* **2** (**change** sbdy./sthg. **into** sbdy./sthg.) to cause to become (something different): *You can't change iron into gold.*

change over *phr v* [I (**from, to**)] to make a complete change: *In 1971 Britain changed over from pounds, shillings, and pence to the new decimal currency.* –see also CHANGEOVER

change[2] *n* **1** [C;U (**in, of**)] (an example of) the act or result of changing: *a sudden change in the weather | the pace of technological change | Many old people find it difficult to cope with change. | If we are to avoid defeat we need a change of leadership|a change in tactics. | There's been a change for the better in her health.* (=it has improved) | *We've made a lot of changes since you were last here. | The*

government has proposed major changes in the laws relating to immigration. | The extraordinary experience brought about a complete change in her outlook. | She's had a **change of heart** (=change of opinion) *about leaving the company.* **2** [C *usu. sing.*] something different, esp. something done for variety and excitement: *Let's go to a restaurant* **for a change.** | *You should take a holiday – you need a change (from work).* | *"The train arrived on time today." "That* **makes a change!"** (=that is different from what usually happens) **3** [C **(of)**] something new and fresh used in place of something else: *He took a* **change of clothes** *with him, because he was going to stay until the next day.* | *This car needs an oil change.* **4** [U] the money that is returned to someone when the amount they have given is more than the cost of the goods being bought: *If it cost 25 pence and you gave her a pound you should get 75 pence change.* **5** [U] **a** coins of low value: *How much have you got in change?* | *He emptied the* **loose change** *out of his pockets.* **b** [**(for)**] money in low-value coins or notes exchanged for a coin or note of higher value: *Can you give me change for a 50-pence piece?* –see also SMALL CHANGE; see MONEY (USAGE) **6** [*the*+S] *infml for* CHANGE OF LIFE **7 get no/small change out of someone** *infml* to get no/little help from someone –see also **ring the changes** (RING[3])

change·a·ble /ˈtʃeɪndʒəbəl/ *adj* likely to change; often changing: *changeable weather* | *a changeable temper* **–-bly** *adv* **–-bility** /ˌtʃeɪndʒəˈbɪlɨti/, **– ~ness** /ˈtʃeɪndʒəbəlnɨs/ *n* [U]

change·less /ˈtʃeɪndʒləs/ *adj fml* unchanging; without change: *changeless blue skies* **– ~ly** *adv*

change·ling /ˈtʃeɪndʒlɪŋ/ *n* a baby secretly exchanged for another, esp. a stupid ugly child left in place of a beautiful clever one, supposedly by fairies (FAIRY (1))

change of life /ˌ· · ˈ·/ also **change–** *n* [*the*+S] the MENOPAUSE

change·o·ver /ˈtʃeɪndʒˌəʊvəʳ/ *n* a change from one activity or system of working to another: *Britain's changeover to decimal money was in 1971.* –see also CHANGE **over**

change ring·ing /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* [U] the art of ringing a set of bells (e.g. in a church tower) in continually varying order

Changing of the Guard /ˌ·· · · ˈ·/ [*the*] a ceremony regularly held outside Buckingham Palace, in which guards in red uniforms and black hats (BEARSKINS) replace others. The Changing of the Guard is a popular tourist attraction.

changing room /ˈ·· ·/ ‖ **locker room** *AmE* – *n* a room where people change clothes, esp. for sport, and which usu. contains SHOWERS, LOCKERS, etc.

chan·nel[1] /ˈtʃænl/ *n* **1** a narrow sea passage connecting two seas –compare CANAL **2** the deepest part of a river, HARBOUR, or sea passage: *Ships must follow the channel into the port.* **3** a way, course, or passage for liquids: *There's a channel in the middle of the old street to help rainwater flow away.* **4** (the shows broadcast on) a particular television station: *Turn to the other channel – I don't like this show.* | *We watched the news on Channel 4.* **5** also **channels** *pl.*– any course or system by which information travels, requests are dealt with, etc.: *You should go through the official channels if you want a government grant.* | *The information was received through intelligence channels.* **6** a way, course, or direction of thought or action: *He needs a new channel for his energy.*

channel[2] *v* **-ll-** *BrE* ‖ **-l-** *AmE* [T **(into)**] **1** to direct towards a particular purpose: *I decided to channel my energies into something useful.* | *The famine relief money was channelled through volunteer groups.* **2** to form a CHANNEL[1] (3) in, or take in a CHANNEL[1] (3): *to channel (water into) the desert* **3 a** to act as a MEDIUM[3] by speaking for the spirits of the dead **b** to allow the power of God to flow through one's body or hands to make other people well or healthy again

Channel [*the*] the ENGLISH CHANNEL

Channel 4 /ˌtʃænl ˈfɔːʳ/ one of Britain's four main television stations, which is supported by advertising and the various ITV stations, and broadcasts programmes intended for people whose interests are shared with relatively small numbers of others –compare BBC 1, BBC 2, ITV

chan·nel·ing /ˈtʃænəl-ɪŋ/ *n AmE* [U] The receiving of messages from people or beings who are not present or seen on the earth. It is not widely believed in or practised. **–-lor, -ler** *n*

Channel Is·lands /ˈ·· ˌ··‖ˌ·· ˈ··/ [*the* + P] a group of British islands in the English Channel near the coast of France. The main islands are Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, and Sark.

channel-surf /ˈ·· ˌ·/ also **channel-hop** *v* [I] *AmE sl* to watch television, quickly changing from one CHANNEL[1](4) to another, not watching any programme for a very long time

Channel Tun·nel /ˌ·· ˈ··/ [*the*] an underground passage which is being built below the English Channel to take trains travelling between England and France

chant[1] /tʃɑːnt‖tʃænt/ *v* [I;T] **1** to sing (words) to a chant: *a choir chanting in church* **2** to repeat (words) continuously in time: *The crowd chanted slogans*

chant[2] *n* **1** a regularly repeated tune, often with many words sung on one note, esp. used in religious services: *a Hindu chant* –see also GREGORIAN CHANT **2** words continuously repeated in time: *The crowd's chant was "More jobs! More money!"*

Chau·tau·qua /ʃəˈtɔːkwə, tʃə-/ also **Chautauqua So·ci·e·ty** /·ˈ·· ·ˌ···/– an organization begun in the US in the late 19th century that provided religious education informally combined with entertainment and music, often in summer outdoor settings. The organization no longer exists but its name is sometimes used in connection with modern attempts to provide similar experiences.

chan·try chap·el /ˈtʃɑːntri ˌtʃæpəl‖ˈtʃæn-/ *n* a CHAPEL (=a small church or part of a church) paid for by someone so that priests can pray for his or her soul there after death

chan·ty ‖also **-tey** *AmE* /ˈʃænti/ *n* a SHANTY[2]

Cha·nu·kah /ˈhɑːnʊkə‖ˈkɑːnəkə, ˈhɑː-/ a Jewish holiday; HANUKKAH

cha·os /ˈkeɪ-ɒs‖-ɑːs/ *n* [U] **1** a state of complete and thorough disorder and confusion: *The failure of the electricity supplies created utter|complete chaos in the city.* | *The country was plunged into chaos following the President's assassination.* **2** *poet* the state of the universe before there was any order

cha·ot·ic /keɪˈɒtɪk‖-ˈɑːtɪk/ *adj* in a state of complete disorder and confusion: *The city traffic was chaotic.* **– ~ally** /kli/ *adv*

chap[1] /tʃæp/ *n infml, esp. BrE* a man or boy; a word now sounding rather old-fashioned or upper-class: *a decent sort of chap* –see also CHAPS

chap[2] *v* **-pp-** [I;T] to (cause to) become sore, rough, and cracked: *chapped hands|lips*

chap·ar·ral /ˌʃæpəˌeæl, ˌtʃæ-/ *n* [U] *AmE* land on which many plants, esp. small oaks, grow close together, found esp. in the SW US

chap·el[1] /ˈtʃæpəl/ *n* **1** [C] a place, such as a small church, a room in a hospital, prison, etc. (but not a PARISH church), used for Christian worship **2** [C] a room or area in a church with its own ALTAR, used esp. for private prayer and small religious services **3** [C] **a** (esp. in England and Wales) a place of Christian worship used by NONCONFORMISTS (=those who do not belong to the established state church or the Roman Catholic Church) **b** (in Scotland) a Roman Catholic church **4** [U] the religious services held in such places: *He goes to chapel every Sunday night.* | *I'll meet you after chapel.* **5** [C+*sing.*|*pl. v*] a branch of a union in jobs such as printing and JOURNALISM: *The chapel has|have voted to go back to work.* | *a chapel meeting*

chapel[2] *adj* [F] *BrE old-fash* (esp. in England and Wales) NONCONFORMIST: *He's chapel but his wife's a member of the Church of England.* –compare CHURCH[2]

chapel of rest /ˌ·· · ˈ·/ *n* **chapels of rest** a place where bodies are kept before being buried

chap·er·on[1] **, -one** /ˈʃæpərəʊn/ *n* (esp. formerly) an older person (usu. a woman) who goes with a young unmarried woman in public and is responsible for her behaviour

chaperon[2] **, -one** *v* [T] to act as a chaperon to

chap·lain /ˈtʃæplɨn/ *n* a priest or other religious minister responsible for the religious needs of a club, a part of the armed forces, a hospital, etc.: *the prison|school chaplain* –see PRIEST (USAGE)

chap·lain·cy /ˈtʃæplɨnsi/ *n* the position of a chaplain or the building where a chaplain works

chap·let /ˈtʃæplɨt/ *n esp. lit* a decorative band of flowers worn on the head

Chap·lin /ˈtʃæplɨn/, **Charlie** (1889–1977) an English film actor and director who worked mainly in the US in silent black and white COMEDY films, in which he usu. played a TRAMP with a small black MOUSTACHE and a BOWLER hat, who walked with the backs of his feet together and the toes pointing outwards –see picture on page 553

Chap·pa·quid·dick /ˌtʃæpəˈkwɪdɪk/ an island off the coast of Massachusetts in the US, connected by a bridge to Martha's Vineyard. In 1969 Edward Kennedy was involved in a car accident there in which a woman died. People often mention Chappaquiddick as a reason for Kennedy not becoming a CANDIDATE for the American presidency.

chaps /tʃæps, ʃæps/ *n* [P] protective leather covers worn over trousers, esp. when riding a horse

Chap Stick /ˈ· ·/ *n tdmk* a small stick of a wax-like substance used to protect and heal chapped (CHAP²) lips

chap·ter /ˈtʃæptəʳ/ *n* **1** any of the main divisions of a book or long article, usu. having a number or title: *You have to wait till the last chapter to find out who the murderer was.* | *This subject is dealt with in Chapter 5.* | (fig.) *The Civil War was a sad chapter in American history.* | (fig.) *This is the latest chapter in a bitter dispute.* **2** [+*sing./pl. v*] (a general meeting of) all the priests connected with a CATHEDRAL **3** *esp. AmE* a local branch of a society, club, etc.

Chapter 11 /ˌtʃæptər ɪˈlevən/ a part of the US BANKRUPTCY laws that allows a company in financial difficulty to reorganize itself so that it will not be forced to close down: *Our competitor has filed for Chapter 11* | *Chapter 11 proceedings*

chapter and verse /ˌ·· · ˈ·/ *n* [U] the exact details of where to find a piece of information: *When the interviewer asked her to justify her statement, she quoted chapter and verse.*

chapter house /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a building or room where the priests connected with a CATHEDRAL meet

chapter of ac·ci·dents /ˌ·· · ˈ···/ *n* [S] *BrE* a number of unfortunate events coming one after another

char¹ /tʃɑːʳ/ *v* **-rr-** [I;T] to (cause to) become black by burning: *There was nothing left of the house but a few charred remains.*

char² *v* **-rr-** [I] *BrE old-fash* to work as a cleaner in a house, office, public building, etc.

char³ *n BrE old-fash* a CHARWOMAN

char⁴ *n* [U] *BrE old-fash sl* tea: *a cup of char*

char·a·banc /ˈʃærəbæŋ/ *n BrE old-fash* a large comfortable bus used for pleasure trips

char·ac·ter /ˈkærɨktəʳ/ *n* **1** [C;U] the combination of qualities which make a particular person, thing, place, etc., different from others; nature: *The twins look alike but have very different characters.* | *A tendency not to show emotions is supposed to be part of the British national character.* | *a man of good character* | *When they pulled down the old houses in the centre of the town, the whole character of the place was changed.* | *I can't understand why she did that – it's quite* **out of character.** (=not at all typical of her behaviour) –compare CHARACTERISTIC², PERSONALITY (1) **2** [U] a combination of qualities that are regarded as valuable or admirable, such as high principles, honesty, etc.: *a woman of great character* | *a nice old house with a lot of character* **3** [C] a person in a book, play, etc.: *It's a good story, but I find some of the characters rather unconvincing.* **4** [C] the opinion that other people have about a person; REPUTATION: *a newspaper story that blackened* (=damaged) *his character* | *The defendant is a man of previous good character.* (=does not have a criminal record) **5** [C] *infml* **a** a person: *She's a strange character.* | (*derog*) *Some character just walked up and stole my bag.* **b** an odd or humorous person: *She's a real character|quite a character – she has us in fits of laughter.* | *a well-known* **character actor** (=one who often plays odd or humorous people) **6** [C] a letter, mark, or sign used in writing or printing: *a notice printed in Chinese characters* | *The characters on my typewriter are too small.* | *Our new printer operates at 60 characters per second.* **7** [C *usu. sing.*] *fml* official position; CAPACITY: *He was there in his character as a town official.* **8** [C] *old-fash, esp. BrE* a usu. written statement of a person's abilities; REFERENCE: *My employer gave me a good character.*

character as·sas·si·na·tion /ˈ··· ···ˌ··/ *n* [C;U] a cruel and usu. unjust attack on someone's character, esp. in print

char·ac·ter·is·tic¹ /ˌkærɨktəˈrɪstɪk◂/ *adj* [(**of**)] typical; representing a person's or thing's usual character: *With characteristic generosity, he offered to buy tickets for all of us.* | *the characteristic taste of Italian wine* | *It's characteristic of her that she never complained.* –opposite **uncharacteristic** – **~ally** /kli/ *adv* : *She gave a characteristically outspoken interview.*

characteristic² *n* [(**of**)] a special and easily recognized quality of someone or something; ATTRIBUTE: *Good planning is one of the characteristics of a successful business.* –compare CHARACTER (1)

char·ac·ter·i·za·tion /ˌkærɨktəraɪˈzeɪʃən‖-tərə-/ *n* [C;U (**as**)] (an example of) the act or skill of characterizing: *The film's characterization of the explorer as selfish and untrustworthy is totally false.* | *She writes exciting stories, but her characterization is weak.*

char·ac·ter·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /ˈkærɨktəraɪz/ *v* [T] **1** to be characteristic of: *An interest in people's deepest feelings characterizes all her writings.* | *The education system there is characterized by an emphasis on success in exams.* **2** [(**as**)] to describe the character of; PORTRAY: *Opponents of the law have characterized it as an attack on free speech.* | *The hero of the book is characterized as a person of very strong principles.*

char·ac·ter·less /ˈkærɨktələs‖-tər-/ *adj derog* not having a strong character; ordinary: *characterless modern houses*

cha·rade /ʃəˈrɑːd‖ʃəˈreɪd/ *n* something which is easily seen to be false or foolish: *The trial was a mere charade; the verdict of guilty had already been decided.*

cha·rades /ʃəˈrɑːdz‖ʃəˈreɪdz/ *n* [U] a game in which words are acted by players, often part (SYLLABLE) by part, until other players can guess the whole word. Charades is played at parties by adults or children.

char·broil /ˈtʃɑːbrɔɪl ‖ ˈtʃɑːr-/ *v* [I;T] *AmE* to cook over a very hot charcoal fire: *He charbroiled the steaks on the barbecue.* –**ed** *adj* : *charbroiled steaks*

char·coal /ˈtʃɑːkəʊl‖ˈtʃɑːr-/ *n* [U] (pieces of) the black substance made by burning wood in a closed container with little air, used in sticks for drawing with or sometimes as FUEL: *a sketch drawn in charcoal* | *a charcoal drawing* | *charcoal stoves*

chard /tʃɑːd‖tʃɑːrd/ also **Swiss chard**– *n* [U] a vegetable with large juicy leaves and stems

Char·don·nay /ˌʃɑːdəˈneɪ ‖ ˌʃɑːr-/ *n* [U] **1** a type of GRAPE grown for wine **2** a popular white wine originally from Burgundy and now produced in various parts of the world

charge¹ /tʃɑːdʒ‖tʃɑːrdʒ/ *v* **1** [I;T (**for**)] to ask in payment: *How much do you charge for a double room?* | *They charge a heavy tax on imported wine.* | *This shop doesn't charge for delivery.* [+*obj(i)+obj(d)*] *They tried to charge me £80 for a room for a night!* **2** [T (**to**)] **a** to record (the cost of something) to someone's debt: *Charge the purchases to my account.* **b** *AmE* to buy something with a CREDIT CARD: *"Can you afford that dress?" "No, but I'll charge it."* **3** [I (**at**);T] to rush (as if) in an attack: *Suddenly the wild animal charged (at) us.* | *The children charged into the playground.* **4** [T (**with**)] to bring an esp. criminal charge against; ACCUSE: *He was charged with the robbery|with stealing the jewels.* | *A man has been charged in connection with the murder.* **5** [T+*that*; ~~*obj*~~] to declare openly (that something is wrong): *The shareholders charged that the directors had withheld vital information.* **6** [T+*obj+to-v*/**with**] *fml* to instruct or command; give as a duty or responsibility: *She charged me to look after|with looking after her son.* **7** [T (**with**)] **a** to load (a gun) **b** *old use* to fill (a glass): *Charge your glasses with wine.* **8** [I;T] to (cause to) take in and store electricity: *to charge a car battery* | *If the red light comes on, it means the battery isn't charging.*

charge² *n* **1** [C;U (**for**)] the price asked or paid for goods or a service: *The admission charge is £5.* | *interest charges* | *a 10% service charge* | *Is there any charge for having the goods delivered?* (=does it cost anything) |

What are the charges in this hotel? | *The faulty part was replaced* **free of charge.** | (*BrE*) *She hadn't got the correct coins for the phone box, so she had to* **reverse the charges**. (=get the receiver of the call to pay for it) —see COST (USAGE) **2** [U (**of**)] a position of care, control, or responsibility for a person, group, organization, etc.: *I'd like to speak to the person* **in charge.** | *I had to go to a conference so I left my deputy in charge.* | *Student nurses should not be left alone* **in charge of** *hospital wards.* | *She* **took charge of** *the family business when her father died.* | *The company is* **in/under my charge** *while the director is away.* | (*fml*) *He has charge of the children while his wife is at work.* **3** [C] *fml* a person (esp. a child) or thing for which one is responsible: *I became my uncle's charge* (=legally in his care) *after my father's death.* | *It was a hot day so the playgroup leader bought some ice cream for his little charges.* **4** [C (**against, of**)] an official statement saying that someone is responsible for a crime; ACCUSATION: *He was arrested* **on a charge of** *murder.* | *The police* **brought a charge** *(of murder) against him.* | *She faces two charges of theft.* (=will have to reply to them in a court of law) | *The police have examined all the facts, and have decided not to* **press/prefer charges** *against him.* (=not to officially charge him) **5** [C] a written or spoken statement blaming someone for doing something undesirable or morally wrong; ALLEGATION: *The President tried to* **counter the charge** (=reply to it and prove it to be false) *that his budget favoured the rich.* | *This policy leaves him* **open to charges** *of* (=likely to be blamed for) *favouring the rich.* **6** [C] a rushing forceful attack by soldiers, wild animals, etc. **7** [C] an amount of explosive to be fired at one time **8** [C;U] **a** (a quantity of) electricity put into a BATTERY or other electrical apparatus: *The battery is* **on charge.** (=is having a charge put into it) **b** power or force, esp. of feelings: *the strong emotional charge of the book* | (*sl*) *They seem to get quite a charge* (=a lot of excitement) *out of playing this dangerous game.* **9** a property of matter considered positive or negative from which comes a determination of how strong an electrical force can be between two PARTICLES with this property **10** [C+*to-v*] *fml* an order; command: *The old servant fulfilled his master's charge to care for the children.*

charge·a·ble /ˈtʃɑːdʒəbəl‖-ɑːr-/ *adj* **1** [F (**to**)] (of costs) that can or must be paid by someone: *These debts are chargeable to me/my account.* **2** [(**with**)] that can be charged, blamed, or held responsible: *a chargeable offence*

charge ac·count /ˈ· ·ˌ·/ *n AmE for* CREDIT ACCOUNT

charge-cap /ˈ· ·/ *v* [T] see CAP² (3)

charge card /ˈ· ·/ *n* a small esp. plastic card, usu. provided by a particular shop, which allows one to obtain goods there, the cost being charged to one's account and paid later: *a Harrods charge card* —compare CHEQUE CARD, CREDIT CARD, DEBIT CARD

charged /tʃɑːdʒd‖ tʃɑːrdʒd/ *adj* causing strong feelings or much argument: *Whether changes should be made in the voting system is a highly charged political question.* | *an emotionally charged atmosphere*

char·gé d'af·faires /ˌʃɑːʒeɪ dæˈfeəʳ‖ˌʃɑːr-/ *n* **chargés d'affaires** (*same pronunciation*) *Fr* an official who acts as a representative of his/her government during the absence of the AMBASSADOR or in a country to which no AMBASSADOR has been appointed

charge hand /ˈ· ·/ *n BrE* a worker whose position is just below that of a FOREMAN

charge nurse /ˈ· ·/ *n BrE* a nurse in charge of a hospital ward, esp. when a man —compare SISTER (4)

Charge of the Light Bri·gade /ˌ· · · ˈ· ·ˌ·/ [*the*] an unsuccessful attack made by British soldiers riding horses during the Crimean War, in which many British soldiers were killed because they were sent into a valley which was heavily defended by Russian CANNONS. Alfred Lord Tennyson described this battle in his poem *The Charge of the Light Brigade*, which has many well-known lines, including:

Half a league, half a league,
Half a league onward.
All in the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.

—see colour picture on page 1015

charg·er¹ /ˈtʃɑːdʒəʳ‖-ɑːr-/ *n old use or lit* a soldier's horse

charger² *n old use* a large flat plate for carrying and serving food

charge sheet /ˈ· ·/ *n* a record kept in a police station of charges made and people to be tried in court

Char·ing Cross /ˌtʃærɪŋ ˈkrɒs◂‖ˈ-krɔːs◂/ one of the main line railway stations in London —see colour map on page 817

Charing Cross Road /ˌ·· · ˈ·/ a street in central London, famous for its bookshops

char·i·ot /ˈtʃæriət/ *n* a two-wheeled horse-drawn vehicle with no seats, used in ancient times in battles and races

char·i·o·teer /ˌtʃæriəˈtɪəʳ/ *n* the driver of a chariot

Chariots of Fire /ˌ··· · ˈ·/ a film made in Britain in 1981. It was based on the story of two runners in the 1924 Olympics, and was about love for one's country and a sense of honour. It won several Academy Awards.

cha·ris·ma /kəˈrɪzmə/ *n* **1** [U] the strong personal charm or power to attract that makes a person able to have great influence over people or win their admiration; MAGNETISM (2): *He could never be a film star; he's got no charisma.* | *a political leader of great charisma* **2** [C] *tech* a power, e.g. of curing diseases, given to a person by the favour of God —~**tic** /ˌkærəˈzmætɪk◂/ *adj*: *a charismatic leader*

charismatic move·ment /ˌ··ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [(*the*)] (*often cap.*) groups of worshippers within the Christian church who give particular importance to praying as a group and to speaking by the direct influence of God

char·i·ta·ble /ˈtʃærətəbəl/ *adj* **1** kind and generous, esp. in giving help to the poor **2** kind and sympathetic in judging others: *I know he made a mistake, but let's be charitable — he was tired at the time.* | *Even on the most charitable analysis, it has not been a great success so far.* —opposite **uncharitable** **3** [A *no comp.*] concerned with giving help to the poor: *a charitable institution* | *charitable donations* —**-bly** *adv*

char·i·ty /ˈtʃærəti/ *n* **1** [U] (money or help given because of) kindness and generosity towards people who are poor, sick, in difficulties, etc.: *She gave the old woman some shoes out of* (=because of) *charity.* | *The victims of the disaster lived on charity until they could make new lives for themselves.* | *a charity performance given by international entertainers to raise money for famine relief* | *They make regular donations to charity.* **2** [C] an organization that helps people who are poor, sick, in difficulties, etc. A **registered charity** is allowed to raise money without paying taxes. Typical charities to which people give money are those which help blind people, sick children, or people in the Third World: *a housing charity* | *The flood victims received money and clothes from several charities.* | *The Red Cross is an international charity.* | *a charity school* (=one where poor children used to be taught free) **3** [U] sympathy and kindness shown when judging others: *They showed little charity towards their former leader after his election defeat.* **4 charity begins at home** *saying* one must give help to or take care of one's own family, people of one's own country, etc. before other people

charity card /ˈ··· ·/ *n* **1** a Christmas card sold to raise money for a charity **2** also **affinity card**— a type of CREDIT CARD given out by a bank or BUILDING SOCIETY. Every time the card is used, the bank or building society gives a small sum of money to a particular charity. —compare CHEQUE CARD

Charity Com·mis·sion /ˈ··· ·ˌ··/ [*the*] an organization in Britain that keeps a list of charities and controls how they are run —~**er** *n*

charity shop /ˈ··· ˌ·/ *n* a shop which sells esp. SECOND-HAND goods to raise money for a charity: *He gave his walking boots to the local charity shop.*

char·la·dy /ˈtʃɑːˌleɪdi‖ˈtʃɑːr-/ *n* a CHARWOMAN

char·la·tan /ˈʃɑːlətən‖ˈʃɑːr-/ *n* a person who deceives others by falsely claiming to have a special knowledge or skill, esp. in medicine: *He's not a doctor, he's a charlatan; he knows nothing about medicine.* —compare QUACK² (1)

Char·le·magne /ˈʃɑːləmeɪn‖ˈʃɑːr-/ (742–814) the first European EMPEROR since Roman times, whose court was in what we now know as France

Charles /tʃɑːlz‖tʃɑːrlz/, **Prince** (1948–) the first son of Queen Elizabeth II and next in line to the British THRONE. His title is the **Prince of Wales**. He married Lady Diana Spencer in St Paul's Cathedral in 1981, and they have two sons, Prince William and Prince Harry. Charles and Diana separated in 1992. Prince Charles is known esp. for his interest in ARCHITECTURE and the environment, and he has made speeches about both these subjects which have caused much discussion and disagreement. –see also Princess DIANA

Charles I /ˌtʃɑːlz ðə ˈfɜːst‖ˌtʃɑːrlz ðə ˈfɜːrst/ (1600–49) a king of England, Scotland, and Ireland, who was executed (EXECUTE) after the English Civil War when parliament stopped supporting him

Charles II /ˌtʃɑːlz ðə ˈsekənd‖ˌtʃɑːr-/ (1630–85) a king of England, Scotland, and Ireland, who was the son of Charles I, and who became king after the English Civil War

Charles, Ray (1930–) an American popular music singer, songwriter, and pianist, blind since childhood, who became successful in the 1960s and still performs today

Charles de Gaulle Air·port /ˌʃɑːl də gəʊl ˈeəpɔːt‖ˌʃɑːrl də gɔːl ˈeərpɔːrt/ also **Charles de Gaulle**– the main Paris airport

Charles·ton /ˈtʃɑːlstən‖-ɑːr-/ *n* [*the*+S] a quick lively dance, popular in the 1920s

Charleston a city in S Carolina in the US –see colour map on page 1374-5

char·ley horse /ˌtʃɑːli ˈhɔːs ‖ ˌtʃɑːrli ˈhɔːrs/ *n AmE infml* a sudden pain in a large muscle, such as the leg or arm muscles, caused by the muscle contracting (CONTRACT[3] (1)) after hard exercise: *"I have a charley horse in my thigh," he groaned.*

Char·ley's Aunt /ˌtʃɑːliz ˈɑːnt‖ˌtʃɑːrliz ˈænt/ a very popular FARCE (=silly, humorous play) by Brandon Thomas (1856–1914) about a man who dresses up as an old lady and pretends to be the aunt of a friend of his

char·lie /ˈtʃɑːli‖-ɑːr-/ *n BrE infml* (*often cap.*) a fool: *I felt a real|proper charlie when I dropped all the plates.*

Charlie and the Choco·late Fac·to·ry /ˌ·· · · ˈ·· ˌ···/ a well-known children's story by Roald Dahl about a poor boy who wins the chance to tour a magical chocolate factory

Charlie Brown /ˌ·· ˈ·/ see Charlie BROWN

Charl·ton /ˈtʃɑːltən‖ˈtʃɑːr-/, **Bobby** (1937–) an English footballer who played for Manchester United. His brother JACK CHARLTON (1935–) played for Leeds United, and they both played for England in the winning 1966 World Cup team. Bobby Charlton is considered to be one of the best British footballers of all time.

charm[1] /tʃɑːm‖tʃɑːrm/ *n* **1** [C;U] the power or ability to please, attract, or delight: *This lovely old town has a charm you couldn't find in a big city.* | *a man of great charm* | *When she discovered how rich he was, she really* **turned on the charm.** (=started using her charm) **2** [C] an act, expression, or phrase believed to have magical powers; SPELL[3] **3** [C] an object worn on a chain or BRACELET to keep away evil or bring good luck; lucky charms include hearts and horseshoes **4 like a charm** perfectly; with complete success: *My little plan* **worked like a charm.**

charm[2] *v* [T] **1** [**(into)**] to delight, attract, or influence by charm: *The child charms everyone (into doing what she wants).* | *She was charmed by Venice.* **2** to control (as if) by magic: *to charm snakes* | *It seemed as if he had a* **charmed life** (=protected by magic); *nothing bad ever happened to him.*

charm·er /ˈtʃɑːməʳ‖-ɑːr-/ *n* **1** someone who charms others **2** someone who charms animals –see also SNAKE CHARMER

charm·ing /ˈtʃɑːmɪŋ‖-ɑːr-/ *adj* very pleasing; delightful: *What a charming young man!* | *charming manners* | *a charming smile|city|garden|story* – ~**ly** *adv*

Charming, Prince see PRINCE CHARMING

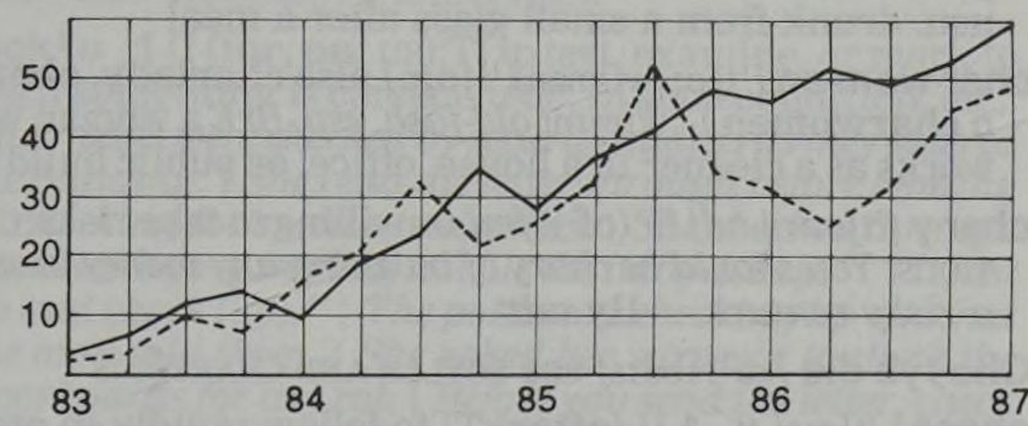
charm school /ˈ· ˌ·/ *n AmE* a school where young people were sometimes sent to learn how to behave in polite society. Charm schools are now rare.

char·nel house /ˈtʃɑːnl haʊs‖ˈtʃɑːr-/ *n lit* a place where the bodies and bones of dead people are stored

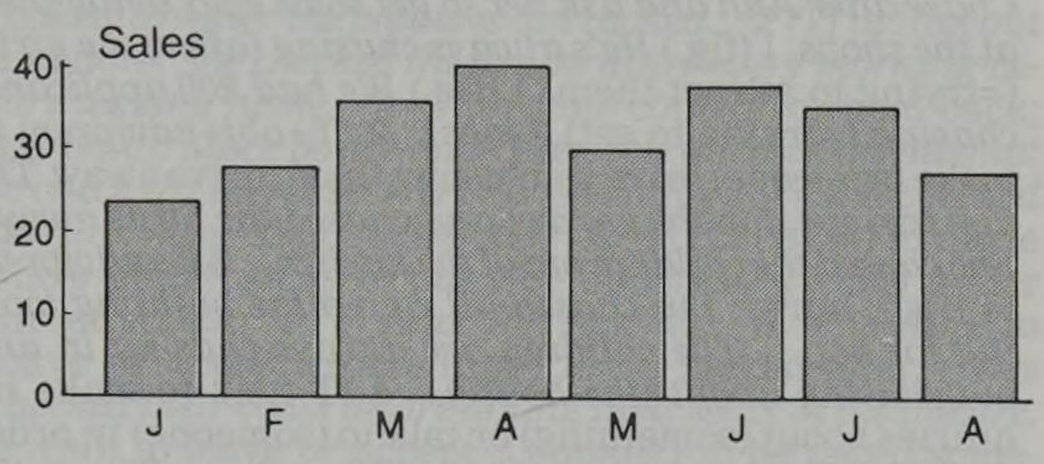
Cha·ron /ˈkeərən/ in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, the boatman who took the souls of the dead across the river Styx to Hades

charts

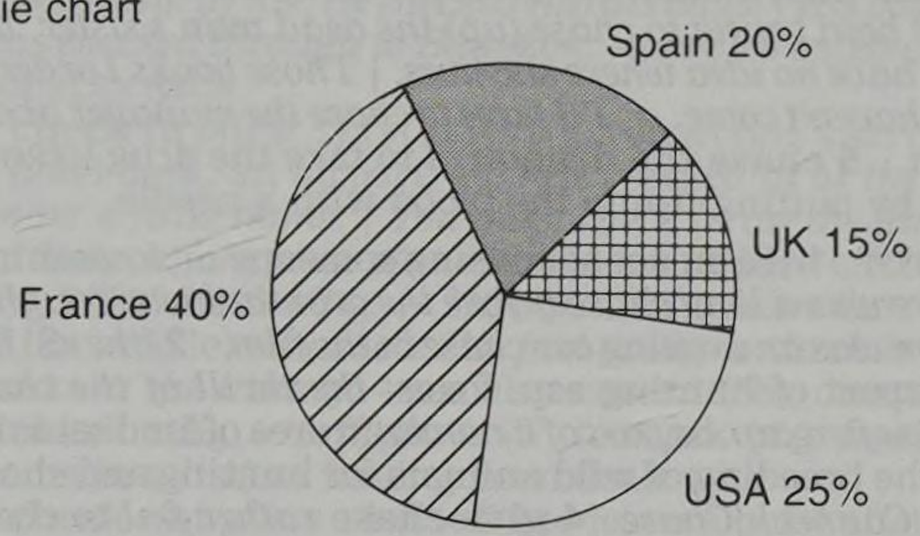
graph



bar chart



pie chart



chart[1] /tʃɑːt‖tʃɑːrt/ *n* **1** (a sheet of paper with) information written or drawn in the form of a picture, GRAPH, etc., usu. with the intention of making it easy to understand: *a sales chart* | *a weather chart* **2** a map, esp. a detailed map of a sea area **3** [*usu. pl.*] a list, produced weekly, of the most popular records: *That song has been* **in the charts** *for weeks.* | *her recent* **chart-topping** *single* –see also BAR CHART, FLOWCHART, PIE CHART

chart[2] *v* [T] to make a map or chart of; show or record on a chart: *to chart the sea area between France and Britain* | (fig.) *The book charts her rise to fame as an actress.* –see also UNCHARTED

char·ter[1] /ˈtʃɑːtəʳ‖-ɑːr-/ *n* **1** [C] *BrE* a signed statement from a ruler, government, etc., giving rights, freedoms, etc., to the people, an organization, or a person: *The rights of our citizens are governed by charter.* | (fig., *derog*) *This new law amounts to a tax evader's charter.* (=allows people to escape paying taxes) –see also CITIZEN'S CHARTER **2** [C] a statement of the principles, duties, and purposes of an organization: *These principles are embodied in the UN charter.* **3** [U] the practice of hiring or renting cars, buses, planes, etc., for special use: *They have yachts available for charter.*

charter[2] *v* [T] **1** to give a charter to, or establish by means of a charter **2** to hire or rent out (a plane, train, bus, etc.) for a special use: *a chartered plane|ship|flight* –see HIRE (USAGE)

Charter 77 /ˌtʃɑːtə sevənti ˈsevən ‖ ˌtʃɑːrtər-/ an organization in Czechoslovakia, established in 1977 to protect and improve CIVIL LIBERTY

charter flight /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a low cost journey in a plane on which all seats have been reserved (RESERVE[1]) in advance by travel companies for their customers –compare SCHEDULED FLIGHT

chartered ac·coun·tant /ˌ·· ·ˈ··/ *BrE* ‖ **certified public accountant** *AmE*– *n* an ACCOUNTANT who has successfully completed his/her training –see also ACCOUNTANT

Char·ter·house /ˈtʃɑːtəhaʊs‖ˈtʃɑːrtər-/ also **Charterhouse**

School /ˌ··· ˈ·/ a top British PUBLIC SCHOOL for boys in Surrey, S England

charter mem·ber /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n esp. AmE* an original member of a society or organization

Char·treuse /ʃɑːˈtrɜːz‖ʃɑːrˈtruːz/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a strong sweet green or yellow French alcoholic drink made with HERBS, usu. drunk from a small glass after a meal

char·wom·an /ˈtʃɑːˌwʊmən‖ˈtʃɑːr-/ also **charlady, char–** *n* **charwomen** /-ˌwɪmɪn/ *old-fash, esp. BrE* a woman who works as a cleaner in a house, office, or public building

char·y /ˈtʃeəri/ *adj* [F (**of**)] *fml* unwilling to take risks; CAUTIOUS: *You should be chary of investing any money in such a risky venture.* **–-ily** *adv*

Cha·ryb·dis /kəˈrɪbdɪs/ see SCYLLA AND CHARYBDIS

chase[1] /tʃeɪs/ *v* **1** [I (**after**);T] to follow rapidly in order to catch: *The cat chased the mouse but couldn't catch it.* | *Chase after Ann and ask her to get some eggs while she's at the shops.* | (fig.) *He's always chasing (after) the girls.* (=trying to attract them) | (fig.) *We had 200 applicants chasing* (=trying to get) *3 jobs!* **2** [T+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] to make (someone) leave by chasing them; drive away: *The dog ran out into the garden and chased the birds away.* | *She chased the children out of the kitchen.* **3** [I+*adv*/*prep*] to rush; hurry: *I've chased all round the building looking for you.* | *The children are always chasing in and out*/*chasing about (the house).* **4** [T (UP)] to make inquiries about (something) or talk to (someone) in order to find information or get something done: *The police have been trying to chase (up) the dead man's sister, but they have no idea where she lives.* | *Those books I ordered still haven't come – I'll have to chase the manager about them.* **5 chase the dragon** *sl* to take the drug HEROIN, esp. by putting it into the blood with a needle

chase[2] *n* **1** [C] an act of chasing someone or something: *There was a long chase before the criminal was caught.* | *There was an exciting car chase in the film.* **2** [*the*+S] *fml* the sport of hunting esp. foxes: *the thrill of the chase* **3** [C] (*often cap. as part of a name*) an area of land set aside for the breeding of wild animals for hunting and shooting: *Cannock Chase* **4 give chase** *rather fml* to chase something or someone: *The old lady saw the thief running up the street and gave chase on her bicycle.* –see also PAPER CHASE, WILD-GOOSE CHASE

chase[3] *v* [T] *tech* to decorate (metal) by marking it with a tool without a cutting edge: *chased silver*

Chase, Chev·y /ˈtʃevi/ (1943–) an American COMEDIAN who appears on television and in films

Chase Man·hat·tan Bank /ˌ·· ·ˌ·· ˈ·/ the third largest bank in the US, with its main offices in New York City

chas·er /ˈtʃeɪsəʳ/ *n* a weaker alcoholic drink drunk after a stronger one, or a stronger alcoholic drink drunk after a weaker one: *After drinking a pint of beer he had a whisky as a chaser.*

chas·m /ˈkæzəm/ *n* a very deep crack or opening in the surface of the earth or ice: (fig.) *There was a (deep) political chasm between the two countries which nearly led to war.*

chas·sis /ˈʃæsi/ *n* **chassis** /ˈʃæsiz/ **1** the frame on which the body and working parts of a vehicle are fastened or built **2** the landing apparatus of a plane

chaste /tʃeɪst/ *adj* **1** *apprec* not taking part in sexual activity , esp. immoral sexual activity –compare CELIBATE; see also CHASTITY **2** MODEST (3) **3** *pomp* (esp. of a style of writing) simple; not too highly decorated **– ~ly** *adv*

chas·ten /ˈtʃeɪsən/ *v* [T] to make (someone) want to improve their behaviour as a result of punishment or suffering: *He was rather chastened by the accident, which had happened because he was driving too fast.* | *a chastening experience*

chas·tise /tʃæˈstaɪz/ *v* [T] *fml* to punish or blame severely, esp. by beating **– ~ment** *n* [C;U]

chas·ti·ty /ˈtʃæstɨti/ *n* [U] **1** (esp. of young women) the condition of being sexually chaste and of having a very pure and INNOCENT attitude to sex: *Chastity before marriage is still demanded in some societies.* **2** *euph for* VIRGINITY

chastity belt /ˈ··· ·/ *n* a special belt with a lock worn by some women in former times and intended to prevent them from having sexual relations

chas·u·ble /ˈtʃæzjʊbəl/ *n* a loose-fitting garment without arms, worn by some Christian priests at religious services, esp. the Mass

chat[1] /tʃæt/ *v* **-tt-** [I (**about,** AWAY, ON)] *infml* to talk in a friendly informal manner: *She chatted with most of the guests at the party.* | *The two friends sat in a corner and chatted (away) about the weather*/*about what they had been doing since they last met.*

chat sbdy. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] *BrE infml* to talk to (esp. someone of the opposite sex) in a friendly way in order to begin a relationship, persuade them to do something, etc.: *The local boys chat up all the foreign girls in the tourist season.* | *If you chat him up a bit he might lend it to you.*

chat[2] *n infml* [C;U (**about, with**)] (a) friendly informal conversation: *I had a chat (about that) with Mary.* | *There's too much chat in this office!* –see also CHAT SHOW

chât·eau , chat- /ˈʃætəʊ‖ʃæˈtəʊ/ *n* **-teaus** *or* **-teaux** /ˈʃætəʊz‖ʃæˈtəʊz/ a castle or large country house in France. The châteaux, esp. those along the Loire, are esp. popular with tourists.

chat·e·laine /ˈʃætl-eɪn/ *n* **1** the female owner, or wife of the owner, of a large country house or castle **2** (in former times) a set of chains fastened to a woman's belt for carrying keys, etc.

chat·line /ˈtʃætlaɪn/ *n* a British telephone service which people call to have a conversation with others who have called the same service. After public concern that some young people call chatlines a lot and leave their parents with very high bills, chatlines were closed down in Britain in 1992.

chat show /ˈ· ·/ *BrE* ‖ **talk show** *AmE*– *n* a radio or television show on which well-known people talk to each other and are asked questions. The presenters of chat shows often become extremely famous themselves: *a chat-show host*

chat·tel /ˈtʃætl/ *n law* an article of movable property (esp. in the phrase **goods and chattels**): (fig.) *He treats his wife as if she were just a chattel.* (=a piece of his property)

chat·ter[1] /ˈtʃætəʳ/ *v* [I] **1** [(**about,** AWAY, ON)] (of people) to talk quickly, continuously, and for a long time, usu. about something unimportant: *The teacher told the children to stop chattering in class.* | *chattering on about his new car* **2** [(AWAY)] (of certain animals and birds) to make rapid speechlike sounds: *The monkeys were chattering away in the trees.* **3** (of the teeth) to knock together repeatedly, esp. through cold or fear: *I was so cold my teeth were chattering.* **– ~er** *n*

chatter[2] *n* [U] **1** rapid informal unimportant conversation **2** a rapid knocking sound made by teeth, machines, etc., or the rapid speechlike sounds made by certain animals and birds: *the chatter of the enemy's guns*

chat·ter·box /ˈtʃætəbɒks‖-tərbɑːks/ *n infml* a person who talks a lot, esp. about things that are unimportant

chattering class·es /ˈ··· ˌ··/ *n* [*the* +P] *BrE* people who are very interested in news and CURRENT AFFAIRS, esp. broadcasters and people who write for the newspapers

Chatterley, Lady see LADY CHATTERLEY

chat·ty /ˈtʃæti/ *adj infml* **1** fond of talking or chatting: *He's a friendly, chatty sort of person.* **2** having the style of informal conversation: *a chatty letter*

chat-up line /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *BrE*‖usu. **line AmE**– *n* something that someone, esp. a man, says in order to try to start a relationship with someone they are interested in sexually, esp. the first time they meet. Certain chat-up lines are felt to have been used so often that they are now only used jokingly, for example "Do you come here often?" and "Haven't we met somewhere before?"

Chau·cer /ˈtʃɔːsəʳ/, **Geoff·rey** /ˈdʒefri/ (about 1340–1400) an English writer best known for his long poem *The Canterbury Tales*, in which members of a group of PILGRIMS tell each other stories, many of which are BAWDY and humorous

chauf·feur /ˈʃəʊfəʳ, ʃəʊˈfɜːʳ/ **chauffeuse** /ʃəʊˈfɜːz ‖ -ɜːrz/ *fem.*– *n* a person employed to drive a car for someone else **–chauffeur** *v* [I;T (AROUND, ABOUT)] : (fig.) *Your mother shouldn't waste her time chauffeuring you around; you'll have to learn to drive yourself!*

chau·vin·is·m /ˈʃəʊvɨnɪzəm/ *n* [U] **1** very great and often unthinking admiration for one's country; proud and

unreasonable belief that one's country is politically, morally, and militarily, better than all others **2** unreasonable belief that the sex to which one belongs is better than the other sex: *When she tried to become an engineer, she came up against* (=was faced by) *a lot of male chauvinism.*

chau·vin·ist /ˈʃəʊvɪnɪst/ *n, adj* (a person or organization) feeling, showing, or based on chauvinism: *a chauvinist foreign policy | Her husband's such a chauvinist that he tries to tell her how to vote.* —see also MALE CHAUVINIST — **~ic** /ˌʃəʊvɪˈnɪstɪk◂/ *adj* — **~ically** /kli/ *adv*

Chá·vez /ˈtʃɑːves/, **Ce·sar** /seɪˈzɑːr/ (1927–) a Mexican-American labour ACTIVIST who organized the United Farm Workers' Union for people who pick fruit and vegetables and often must move around to find work. He led successful BOYCOTTS of some products to help win better wages and protection from harmful chemicals for workers.

cheap[1] /tʃiːp/ *adj* **1** low in price and good value for money; INEXPENSIVE: *Fresh vegetables are very cheap in the summer. | Bread is cheap in this shop because they bake it themselves. | This is the cheapest restaurant in town.* (=it charges the lowest prices) | *Houses like that* **don't come cheap.** (=are expensive) | *She got those trousers* **on the cheap** (=at a very low price) *at the market.* | (*derog*) *The industry is maintained by the* **cheap labour** (=work done for low pay) *of immigrant workers.* **2** low in price and of little value or low quality: *Her shoes looked* **cheap and nasty** *to me.* | (fig.) *A hundred years ago human life was held a lot cheaper than it is today.* (=was considered to have little value) **3** (of behaviour) offensively unpleasant and showing a lack of principles or sincere feelings; VULGAR: *I hate his kind of cheap humour. | cheap emotion | cheap thrills | I felt very cheap* (=ashamed) *because I'd lied to my friend.* **4** *AmE infml* not liking to spend money; STINGY **5 cheap and cheerful** *infml* (esp. of decorations, etc.) looking cheap, but not ashamed of it — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

cheap[2] *adv* at a very low price: *I was very lucky to get it so cheap.*

cheap·en /ˈtʃiːpən/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) become cheaper in price or value: *The dollar's increase in value has cheapened imports.* **2** [T] to make (esp. oneself) seem less good or honourable; DEGRADE: *Don't cheapen yourself by getting involved in their shady deals.*

cheap-jack /ˈ· ·/ *adj* [A] *BrE* **1** cheap and worthless; SHODDY **2** producing or selling cheap worthless goods

cheap·skate /ˈtʃiːpskeɪt/ *n derog* a person who spends or gives very unwillingly

cheat[1] /tʃiːt/ *v* **1** [I (**at**)] to behave in a dishonest or deceitful way in order to win an advantage, esp. in a game: *He always cheats at cards. | Any student caught cheating will be disqualified from the exam.* **2** [T (**of, out of**)] to take from (someone) deceitfully: *They cheated the old woman (out) of her money by making her sign a document she didn't understand.* **3** [T] *lit* to avoid or escape as if by deception: *The swimmers cheated death in the stormy seas.* **4** [I (**on**)] *infml* to be sexually unfaithful (to): *They've only just got married, and already she's started cheating (on him)!*

cheat[2] *n* **1** a person who cheats; dishonest person: *I saw you drop that card, you cheat!* **2** *rare* an example of cheating or dishonesty

check[1] /tʃek/ *n* **1** [C (**on**)] an examination or INSPECTION, e.g. to make certain that something is correct or in good condition: *an airport security check | a check on the quality of all goods leaving the factory | They gave the car a thorough check before setting out on their journey. | The police are* **running a check** *on everyone who was at the party.* (=finding information about them) | *I don't think I've got a copy of the report, but I'll have a check through my files. | You'll have to keep a check on the oil – there's a leak in the tank.* —see also CHECKUP, SPOT CHECK **2** [C] a standard against which something can be tested or examined: *She glanced through his lecture notes as a check that she had noted down all the important information.* **3** [S (**on**); U] (a means of) the prevention of movement or development; RESTRAINT: *The river acted as a check on the army's advance. | We've kept the disease in check for a year now. | You must put a check on your spending. | The police tried to* **hold** *the angry crowd* **in check**. **4** [C] **a** *AmE for* CHEQUE **b** *AmE for* TICK[1] (2) **5** [C] a ticket or object for claiming something; RECEIPT: *I've lost the check for my coat.* **6** [C] *AmE & ScotE* a bill at a restaurant **7** [C;U] a pattern of squares, esp. on cloth: *a red and white check tablecloth* —see also CHECKED **8** [U] (in CHESS) the position of the king when under direct attack from an opponent's piece(s): *He put her in check with his knight.* —see also CHECKMATE, RAIN CHECK

check[2] *v* **1** [I (**for, on,** UP);T] to test, examine, or mark to see if something is correct, true, in good condition, etc.: *Their bags were checked by security guards as they entered the building. | She read the letter through before sending it, checking for spelling mistakes. | She checked through the letter before sending it. | "Is the baby asleep?" "I'll just go and check (up)." | The police are checking up on what the man told them. | She asked her surveyor to check the floorboards for dry rot. | Before you send the letter, check with Bill* (=ask him) *to see if the address is right.* [+*that*|*wh-*] *I must just check that the potatoes are cooked|whether the potatoes are cooked.* **2** [T] to find out and note: *She checked the temperature every morning before leaving home.* **3** [T] to stop, control, or hold back; RESTRAIN: *More police have been recruited in an attempt to check the increase in crime. | A change of wind checked the fire.* —see also UNCHECKED **4** [T] (in CHESS) to move one's pieces so as to put (the opponent's king) under direct attack **5** [T] *AmE for* TICK[2] (2) **6** [T] **a** *AmE* to leave or accept (something) to be looked after: *They checked their coats before taking their seats in the theatre.* **b** [(IN)] to leave or accept (LUGGAGE) to be taken somewhere, esp. by air: *He checked (in) his bags. | His baggage was checked through to Bangkok.* —see also CROSS-CHECK, DOUBLE-CHECK

check in *phr v* **1** [I (**at, to**)] to report one's arrival at a hotel desk, an airport, etc.: *He checked in at the hotel under a false name. | You must check in (at the airport) an hour before your plane leaves.* —compare CHECK **out** (1) **2** [T] (**check** sthg. ↔ **in**) *esp. AmE* to have the return of (an article) recorded: *I'm just going to check in these books at the library.* —see also CHECK[2] (6b), CHECK-IN

check sthg. ↔ **off** *phr v* [T] to mark (e.g. names or items in a list) as having been dealt with

check out *phr v* **1** [I (**of**)] to leave a hotel after paying the bill —compare CHECK **in** **2** [I;T (=**check** sthg. ↔ **out**)] *infml* **a** to find out whether (something) is true by making inquiries: *The police are still checking out his story|his alibi.* **b** to be found to be true after inquiries have been made: *How does his story check out with the facts?* **3** [T] (**check** *sthg.* ↔ **out**) *infml, esp. AmE* to examine (something) in order to learn the qualities of: *Have you checked out that new Thai restaurant? | boys checking out the other team's cheerleaders* **4** [T] (**check** sthg. ↔ **out**) *esp. AmE* to have the removal of (an article) recorded: *to check a book out (of a library)* —see also CHECKOUT

check sthg. ↔ **over** *phr v* [T] to examine (something) in order to make sure it is correct: *Please check this work over and correct any mistakes.*

check·book /ˈtʃekbʊk/ *n AmE for* a CHEQUEBOOK

check card /ˈ· ·/ also **check guar·an·tee card** /ˌ· ··ˈ· ·/ — *n AmE for* a CHEQUE CARD

checked /tʃekt/ *adj* having a pattern of squares: *checked curtains* —compare CHEQUERED; see also CHECK[1] (7), and see picture at PATTERN

Check·er /ˈtʃekəʳ/, **Chubby** (1941–) an American singer popular esp. in the 1960s, whose most famous song is *The Twist*

check·ered /ˈtʃekəd‖-ərd/ *adj AmE for* CHEQUERED

check·ers /ˈtʃekəz‖-ərz/ *n* [U] *AmE for* DRAUGHTS

check-in /ˈ· ·/ *n* [C;U] (a place for) the reporting of one's arrival at a hotel desk, airport, etc.: *The airline boasts superior service from reservations through check-in to baggage handling. | a check-in counter* —see also CHECK **in**

checking ac·count /ˈ·· ·ˌ·/ *n AmE* a bank account which usu. earns little or no interest and from which money can be taken out at any time by cheque; CURRENT ACCOUNT — compare DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

check·list /ˈtʃekˌlɪst/ *n* [(**of**)] a complete list, e.g. of checks to be made, things to be done, etc.: *The crew of the aircraft went through the safety checklist before takeoff.*

check·mate[1] /ˈtʃekmeɪt/ *n* [C;U] **1** (in CHESS) the position of a king at the end of a game when under direct attack,

from which escape is impossible **2** (a) complete defeat —compare STALEMATE

checkmate[2] *v* [T] **1** (in CHESS) to defeat (the opponent's king and therefore the opponent) with a checkmate: *She checkmated my king|checkmated me in six moves.* **2** to stop; completely defeat

check·out /ˈtʃek-aʊt/ *n* **1** [C] a desk in a self-service shop where one pays for goods. The sum owed is calculated by a CASHIER who then takes the money. **2** [C;U] the time at which a guest must leave a hotel room or be charged for another day: *Checkout is at midday in this hotel.* | *checkout time* —see also CHECK **out**

check·point /ˈtʃekpɔɪnt/ *n* a place, esp. on a border, where an examination of people, goods, etc., is made

Checkpoint Char·lie /ˌ·· ˈ··/ the best-known checkpoint in the Berlin Wall between what was formerly East and West Germany

check·room /ˈtʃek-rʊm, -ruːm/ *n esp. AmE for* **1** LEFT LUGGAGE OFFICE **2** a CLOAKROOM

checks and bal·anc·es /ˌ· · ˈ···/ *n* [P] limits put on a group, esp. a part of a government, by stating that another group has the power to change or VETO (disapprove) the first group's actions or decisions: *A system of checks and balances was built into the US government.*

check·up /ˈtʃek-ʌp/ *n infml* a general medical examination, usu. taken regularly, to test one's state of health and discover any disease at an early stage: *to have an annual checkup* —compare PHYSICAL

ched·dar /ˈtʃedəʳ/ *n* [U] (*often cap.*) a hard smooth usu. yellowish cheese, probably the most popular cheese in Britain and the US: *a mild|mature cheddar*

Cheddar Gorge /ˌ·· ˈ·/ a deep valley in the Mendip Hills, SW England, famous for its CAVES

Cheech and Chong /ˌtʃiːtʃ ənd ˈtʃʊŋ‖-ˈtʃɔːŋ/ two American COMEDIANS who were popular in the 1970s, esp. with younger people who used drugs

cheek[1] /tʃiːk/ *n* **1** [C] the fleshy part of the face below the eye, esp. in humans: *He kissed her on the cheek.* —see picture at HEAD **2** [U] *BrE infml* disrespectful rude behaviour: *What a cheek!* | *Well, of all the cheek!* [+*to-v*] *He had the cheek to say that I was late!* **3** [C] *infml* either of the two soft fleshy parts at the back lower end of the body, esp. in human beings; BUTTOCK **4 cheek by jowl (with)** very close together or closely connected: *It was incongruous to see a bishop sitting there cheek by jowl with the Communist leader.* **5 turn the other cheek** to take no action against someone who has hurt or harmed one **6 -cheeked** /tʃiːkt/having cheeks of the stated kind: *rosy-cheeked children* —see also **tongue in cheek** (TONGUE(10))

cheek[2] *v* [T] *BrE infml* to speak or behave rudely or disrespectfully towards: *She was sent to the headmistress for cheeking the other teachers.*

cheek·bone /ˈtʃiːkbəʊn/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] the bone above the cheek, just below the eyes

cheek·y /ˈtʃiːki/ *adj BrE* ‖ **sassy** *AmE* – disrespectful, esp. towards someone older such as one's teacher or parents; rude; IMPUDENT: *a cheeky remark*/little boy —see IMPOLITE (USAGE) —**-ily** *adv* —**-iness** *n* [U]

cheep /tʃiːp/ *v* [I] to make the weak high noise made by young birds —**cheep** *n*

cheer[1] /tʃɪəʳ/ *n* **1** [C] a shout of praise, approval, or encouragement: *I heard the cheers of the crowd, and I knew our team was winning.*

►CULTURAL NOTE If someone **gives a cheer** it usu. means that they shout "Hurray!" or "Hurrah!", to show their approval of something. Sometimes someone will call for **three cheers** for someone. Then they will usu. say "Hip hip..." and the other people present will shout "Hurray!", three times altogether.◄

2 [U] *fml or lit* a feeling of happiness and confidence; good spirits: *After the long hard winter, the feeling of spring in the air filled her with cheer.* | *The general's speech gave cheer to his anxious troops.* **3** [U] *lit or old-fash* eating, drinking, and being merry: *Christmas cheer* —see also CHEERS

cheer[2] *v* **1** [I] to shout in praise, approval, or support: *The crowd cheered as the teams arrived.* **2** [T (ON)] to encourage by cheering: *The crowd cheered their favourite rider (on).* **3** [T] to give encouragement or hope to: *The trapped miners were cheered when they heard the rescue party.* | *cheering news*

cheer up also **buck up**– *phr v infml* **1** [I;T (=**cheer** sbdy. **up**)] to (cause to) become happier, more cheerful: *Cheer up! The news isn't too bad.* | *He took her to the ballet to cheer her up.* **2 Cheer up! It might never happen** *infml* (said to someone who looks very thoughtful and unhappy, for no reason that one can see)

cheer·ful /ˈtʃɪəfəl‖-ˈtʃɪər-/ *adj* **1** happy and lively; in good spirits: *a cheerful person|grin* **2** bright and pleasant; likely to cause happy feelings: *cheerful music|wallpaper* | *high street boutiques selling cheap and cheerful clothes* **3** pleasantly willing: *his cheerful compliance with our requests* —see also **cheap and cheerful** (CHEAP[1]) — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U] : *singing cheerfully* | *She cheerfully admitted her mistake.*

cheer·i·o /ˌtʃɪəriˈəʊ/ *interj BrE infml* goodbye

Cheer·i·os /ˌtʃɪəriˈəʊz/ *n* [P] *tdmk* a popular American breakfast CEREAL containing OATS

cheer·lead·er /ˈtʃɪəˌliːdəʳ‖-ˈtʃɪər-/ *n* (esp. in the US) a person who calls for and directs cheering, e.g. at a football game, using certain agreed cheers and dance-like movements. In the US, every HIGH SCHOOL has a team of cheerleaders (usu. girls), chosen for their attractive appearance, confidence, and ability to jump and perform dance-like movements. Professional sports teams also have cheerleaders, who are highly paid and are often highly skilled dancers; the **Dallas Cowboys** (a football team) are famous for their cheerleaders.

cheer·less /ˈtʃɪələs‖-ˈtʃɪər-/ *adj* dull; without comfort or happiness; saddening: *a cheerless rainy day* — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

cheers /tʃɪəz‖tʃɪərz/ *interj* **1** used for expressing good wishes when drinking with someone, esp. when taking the first mouthful of a new drink. (People raise their glasses towards each other and sometimes move them together to touch each other, when they say 'cheers'.) **2** *BrE infml* goodbye **3** *BrE infml* thank you

Cheers an amusing American television programme set in a bar called Cheers in Boston —see colour picture on page 686

cheer·y /ˈtʃɪəri/ *adj* bright; cheerful: *a cheery greeting* —**-ily** *adv* —**-iness** *n* [U]

cheese /tʃiːz/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a) soft or firm solid food made from milk: *cheese made from the milk of cows, sheep, or goats* | *English cheeses* | *Will you grate some cheese to sprinkle over the pasta?* | *a wine and cheese party* **2 say cheese** (a phrase said by someone who is just about to take a photograph to make people smile): *Come on, everyone, say cheese!* —see also BIG CHEESE, BLUE CHEESE, CREAM CHEESE —compare **watch the birdie** (BIRDIE)

cheese·bur·ger /ˈtʃiːzbɜːgəʳ‖-ɜːr-/ *n* a HAMBURGER cooked with a piece of cheese on top of the meat

cheese·cake /ˈtʃiːzkeɪk/ *n* **1** [C;U] a cake in a sweet pastry case, made from a mixture containing soft cheese **2** [U] *old-fash infml* photographs of pretty women with few clothes on —compare BEEFCAKE

cheese·cloth /ˈtʃiːzklɒθ‖-klɔːθ/ *n* [U] thin cotton cloth used for putting round some kinds of cheeses, and sometimes for making clothes

cheesed off /ˌtʃiːzd ˈɒf‖-ˈɔːf/ *adj* [(**with**)] *BrE sl* thoroughly tired of something; having lost all interest; FED UP: *I'm cheesed off (with this job).*

cheese·par·ing /ˈtʃiːzˌpeərɪŋ/ *n* [U] too great carefulness when giving or spending money – **cheeseparing** *adj* [A]: *cheeseparing little economies*

chee·tah /ˈtʃiːtə/ *n* a long-legged spotted African animal of the cat family, about the size of a small LEOPARD and able to run very fast —see picture at BIG CATS

Chee·ver /ˈtʃiːvəʳ/, **John** (1912–82) an American writer, best remembered for his short stories

chef /ʃef/ *n* a skilled usu. male cook, esp. the chief cook in a hotel or restaurant. The STEREOTYPE of a chef is of a man who wears a white coat or APRON and a tall white hat, and who becomes upset or angry easily, esp. if his cooking goes wrong: *a pastry chef* —compare COOK[2]

chef d'oeu·vre /ˌʃeɪ ˈdɜːvrə‖-ˈdɜːvrə, -ˈdɜːrv/ *n* **chefs d'oeuvre** (*same pronunciation*) *Fr fml* the best piece of work by a painter, writer, etc.; MASTERPIECE

Che Gue·va·ra /ˌtʃeɪ gɜˈvɑːrə/ (1926–67) an Argentine REVOLUTIONARY (=supporter of anti-government forces). He helped Fidel Castro come to power in Cuba and was killed by GUERRILLAS in Bolivia.

Chek·hov , Chekov /ˈtʃekɒf‖-ɔːf/, **An·ton Pav·lo·vich** /ˈæntɒn ˈpævləvɪtʃ‖-ɑːn ˈpɑːv-/ (1860–1904) a Russian writer of plays and short stories, best known for his plays *The Seagull*, *Uncle Vanya*, and *The Cherry Orchard* **~ian** /tʃeˈkəʊviən/ *adj*

Chelms·ford /ˈtʃelmzfəd‖-fərd/ a town in Essex, England, where the local government for that COUNTY is based

Chel·sea /ˈtʃelsi/ an area of London known for its expensive housing and fashionable shops

Chelsea bun /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* a small, round, sweet cake with dried fruit in it

Chelsea Flow·er Show /ˌ·· ˈ·· · [*the*] a large flower show which takes place in London in May every year and is visited by people from all over Britain

Chelsea pen·sion·er /ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n* an old or sick person who was once a soldier in the British army and who now lives in a special hospital in Chelsea

Chel·ten·ham /ˈtʃeltənəm/ a town in W England which is famous for its horse racing, its SPA and its PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Chel·ten·ham Gold Cup /ˌ··· ˌ· ˈ·/ [*the*] a horse race which is run once a year at Cheltenham, England

Cheltenham La·dies' Col·lege /ˌ··· ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a PUBLIC SCHOOL for girls in Cheltenham, started in 1853

chem·i·cal[1] /ˈkemɪkəl/ *adj* of, connected with, used in, or made by chemistry: *A chemical reaction occurs if you put zinc into sulphuric acid.* | *a chemical solution* | *chemical engineering* – **~ly** /kli/ *adv*

chemical[2] *n* a substance used in or produced by chemistry; any of the ELEMENTS or the compounds formed from them: *toxic/organic chemicals*

chemical re·ac·tion /ˌ··· ·ˈ··/ *n* a process in which the atoms of substances mix and arrange themselves differently to form new substances, without using or making heat: *Pour this solution into that one, and a chemical reaction will take place.* –compare NUCLEAR REACTION

chemical war·fare /ˌ··· ˈ··/ *n* [U] methods of fighting a war in which CHEMICAL WEAPONS are used –compare BIOLOGICAL WARFARE

chemical weap·on /ˌ··· ˈ··/ *n* [*usu. pl*] a weapon in war which uses non-explosive chemicals e.g. poisonous gas: *An agreement has been reached to ban the use of all chemical weapons.*

che·mise /ʃəˈmiːz/ *n* a woman's simple dress that hangs straight from the shoulder

chem·ist /ˈkemɪst/ *n* **1** a scientist who specializes in chemistry **2** also **pharmacist** *BrE or fml AmE– BrE* a skilled person who owns or runs a shop where medicines are sold (a **chemist's**). TOILETRIES are also usu. sold there.: *The chemist made up my prescription immediately.* –see also DRUGSTORE, PHARMACY

chem·is·try /ˈkemɪstri/ *n* [U] **1** the science which studies the substances (ELEMENTS) which make up the Earth, universe, and living things, how these substances combine with each other, and how they behave under different conditions **2** the chemical structure and behaviour of a particular substance: *the chemistry of lead* **3** the physical CONSTITUTION of someone: *It's part of my chemistry to need a warm climate.* **4** the feeling between two people, esp. who are attracted to each other, which cannot be explained by reason or science: *The chemistry was right between us.* | *I couldn't help falling in love – it was chemistry.*

chemistry set /ˈ··· ˌ·/ *n* a box containing the necessary chemicals and equipment for usu. young people to practise chemistry at home: *Mum bought me a chemistry set for my birthday!*

chem·o·ther·a·py /ˌkiːməʊˈθerəpi, ˌke-/ *n* [U] the use of chemical substances to treat and control certain diseases, esp. CANCER. It usu. has unpleasant SIDE EFFECTS, for example, sickness and loss of hair on the patient's head: *She is having/undergoing a course of chemotherapy.* **–-peutic** /ˌkiːməʊθerəˈpjuːtɪk, ˌke-/, **-peutical** *adj* **–-peutically** /kli/ *adv*

che·nille /ʃəˈniːl/ *n* [U] (cloth made from) twisted thread with a soft smooth brush-like surface, used for dresses, curtains, etc.: *a chenille bedspread*

cheque *BrE* ‖ **check** *AmE* /tʃek/ *n* **1** a specially printed sheet of paper supplied by a bank on which an order can be written **2** a written order to a bank to pay a certain sum of money from one's bank account to oneself or to another person. It is usu. made on a CHEQUE (1): *I'd like to pay by cheque, please, rather than in cash.* | *She wrote me a cheque.* | *If the banks are closed you can* **cash a cheque** (=use a cheque to get cash) *at the Post Office.* | *We can't issue the tickets for your flight until your cheque has been cleared.* (=the money has been paid from your bank account) –compare DRAFT[1] (2); see also BLANK CHEQUE, TRAVELLER'S CHEQUE

cheque·book /ˈtʃekbʊk/ *BrE* ‖ **checkbook** *AmE– n* a set of CHEQUES (1) bound together in a small book. When a cheque is removed, a small piece of paper (a **cheque stub**) remains, on which one can write details of who the cheque was paid to, how much it was for, etc.

chequebook jour·nal·is·m /ˌ·· ˈ····/ *n* [U] low-quality writing esp. connected with TABLOID newspapers, who pay large amounts of money for details of famous people's private lives, and print shocking and sensational stories about them

cheque card /ˈ· ·/ also **banker's card, cheque guarantee card** /ˌ· ··ˈ · ˌ·/ *n* a card given by a bank to those who have an account with it, which promises that the bank will pay out the money written on their cheques up to a certain amount, usu. between £50 and £250: *I'm afraid we can't accept/take a cheque without a cheque card.* – compare CHARGE CARD, CHARITY CARD, CREDIT CARD, DEBIT CARD

chequ·ered *BrE* ‖ **checkered** *AmE* /ˈtʃekəd‖-ərd/ *adj* **1** covered with a pattern of differently coloured squares – compare CHECKED **2** (esp. of a person's past life) varied; with many changes of fortune: *He'd had a chequered past but was now determined to be successful.* | *a chequered career*/history

chequered flag /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [*the*] a flag covered with black and white squares, used to signal the start and finish of a motor race

cheq·uers /ˈtʃekəz‖-ərz/ *n* see CHINESE CHEQUERS

Chequers the official country house of the British Prime Minister, NW of London

Cher /ʃeəʳ/ (1946–) an American singer and actress who has performed in many films

Cher·bourg /ˈʃeəbʊəg‖ˈʃeərbʊərg/ a city and port in NW France, where many ferries (FERRY[1]) from England go to

cher·ish /ˈtʃerɪʃ/ *v* [T] *fml* **1** to care for tenderly; love: *The old man cherished the girl as if she were his daughter.* | *his most cherished possession* **2** to keep (hope, love, or other deep feelings) firmly in mind: *I cherish the hope that he will come back.* | *cherished memories*

Cher·nen·ko /tʃɜːˈnjeŋkəʊ‖tʃɜːr-/, **Kon·stan·tin** /ˈkɒnstəntiːn‖ˈkɑːn-/ (1911–85) a Soviet politician, President 1984–85 and leader of the Communist Party

Cher·no·byl /tʃɜːˈnəʊbəl‖tʃər-/ a place in the former USSR where in 1986 an explosion at a NUCLEAR power station caused deaths and illnesses locally as well as POLLUTION over wide areas of Europe: *the Chernobyl disaster* | *We believe Koeberg could never become a Chernobyl.*

Cher·o·kee /ˈtʃerəkiː/ *n* [C;*the*+P] (a member of) a Native American people from the US states of North Carolina and Tennessee. The Cherokee had a form of government similar to that of the US which was called the **Cherokee Nation**. Many Cherokee died on the **Trail of Tears**, when they were forced to leave their lands and go to Indian Territory in what is now Oklahoma. –see also NATIVE AMERICAN (CULTURAL NOTE)

che·root /ʃəˈruːt/ *n* a CIGAR with both ends cut square

cher·ry /ˈtʃeri/ *n* **1** [C] a small soft fleshy red, yellow, or black round fruit with one hard seed in the middle: *a cherry tart* | *cherry red* (=a bright red) –see picture at FRUIT **2** [C;U] (the wood of) the tree on which this fruit grows: *a cherry orchard* **3** [C *usu. sing.*] *sl* the state of being without sexual experience; VIRGINITY (esp. in the phrase **lose one's cherry**) **4 the cherry on the cake** also **the cherry on the top**– something else that is pleasant to have, in addition to what is expected: *The videos are primarily made to entertain people. If they learn something, it's the cherry on the top.* **another/a second**

bite at the cherry (BITE[2] (6)); **bowl of cherries** (BOWL[1] (4))

Cherry Or·chard /ˈ·· ˌ··/, **The** a play by Anton Chekhov about the changes for the worse suffered by the Russians who owned land and property

cher·ub /ˈtʃerəb/ *n* **1** a fat pretty usu. male child with small wings, as shown in old paintings **2** *infml* a charming pretty child **3** (*pl.* **cherubs** *or* **cherubim**) any of the winged ANGELs guarding the seat of God according to the Bible —compare SERAPH— **~ic** /tʃəˈruːbɪk/ *adj* —**~ically** /kli/ *adv*

cher·vil /ˈtʃɜːvl̩‖-ˈtʃɜːr-/ *n* [U] a strong-smelling garden plant (HERB) whose leaves are used to give a special taste to food

Ches·a·peake Bay /ˌtʃesəpiːk ˈbeɪ/ a bay (body of water connected to the sea) on the US east coast, important for trade and shipping

Che·shire /ˈtʃeʃəʳ/ a COUNTY in NW England, famous for its hard cheese

Chesh·ire cat /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* the cat in Lewis Carroll's children's story *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* which disappeared slowly until only its smile remained: *She was grinning like a Cheshire cat.*

Cheshire cheese /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] hard, white, sourish cheese originally made in Cheshire

Cheshire Homes /ˈ·· ˌ·/ [*the* +P] (in Britain) places where very sick people can live and receive a lot of care and medical attention, although they are not expected to get better

Ches·il Bank /ˌtʃezəl ˈbæŋk/ also **Chesil Beach**— a long high bank of stones thrown up by the sea, stretching SE from the coast of Dorset, in S England, to the Isle of Portland

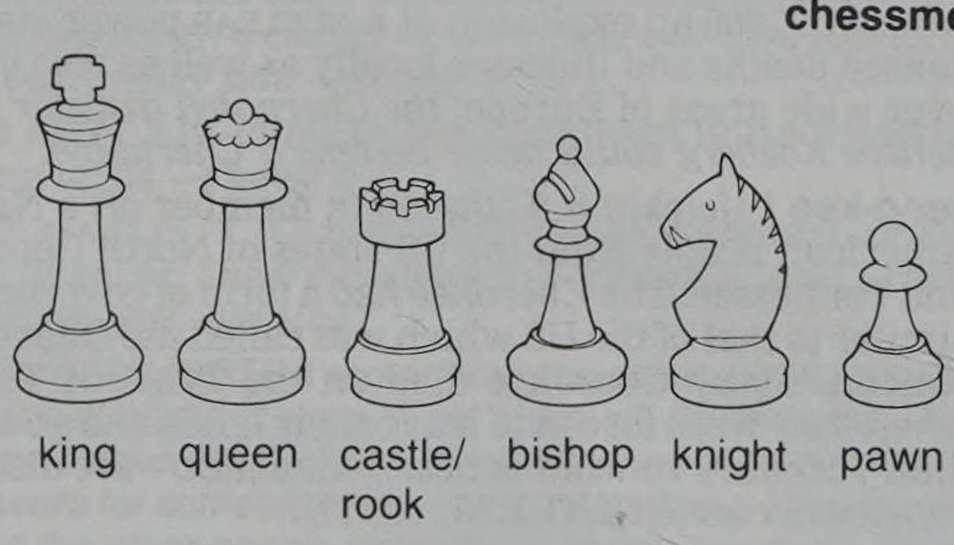
chess /tʃes/ *n* [U] a game for two players, who move their pieces in turn according to fixed rules across a board in an attempt to trap (CHECKMATE) their opponent's king. One player is described as 'black' and the other as 'white'.

chess·board /ˈtʃesbɔːd‖-bɔːrd/ *n* a square board with 64 black and white squares, each square being next to a square of a different colour, on which chess or DRAUGHTS is played

chess·man /ˈtʃesmæn/ also **chess piece**— *n* **-men** /men/ any one of the 16 black or 16 white pieces used in the game of chess: *She set up the chessmen, ready to play.*

chest /tʃest/ *n* **1** the upper front part of the body between the neck and the stomach, enclosing the heart and lungs: *a hairy chest* | *He's got a weak chest.* (=he gets a lot of coughs and colds) | *a sweater chest size 38* —compare BREAST[1] **2** (the amount contained in) a large strong box in which valuable objects are kept, goods packed, etc.: *a chest of tea* —see also CHEST OF DRAWERS, HOPE CHEST, TEA CHEST, and see picture at CONTAINER **3 get something off one's chest** to bring a worry out into the open by talking about it **4 -chested** /tʃestɪ̈d/ having a chest of the stated kind: *a flat-chested woman* (=with small breasts)

chessmen



king queen castle/ rook bishop knight pawn

Ches·ter /ˈtʃestəʳ/ a town in Cheshire in NW England, where the local government for that COUNTY is based. It has many historical buildings, and there is a wall around the old part of the town.

ches·ter·field /ˈtʃestəfiːld‖-ər-/ *n* a long seat (COUCH) with a back and sides, thickly filled out with comfortable soft material and usu. covered with leather

Ches·ter·ton /ˈtʃestətən‖-tər-/, **G K** (1874–1936) an English writer whose best-known stories are about Father Brown, a priest who uses his clever mind to explain or find the answer to crimes

chest·nut[1] /ˈtʃesnʌt/ *n* **1** [C] a smooth reddish-brown nut that stays enclosed in a smooth case until ripe, and can be cooked and eaten **2** [C;U] (the wood of) the tree (**chestnut tree**) on which this nut grows **3** [C;U] HORSE CHESTNUT —see picture at TREE **4** [C] a reddish-brown horse **5** [C] *infml* a joke or story so old and well-known that it is no longer funny or interesting: *His speeches are always full of* **old chestnuts**. **6 pull someone's chestnuts out of the fire** *BrE infml* to save someone from a difficult situation, esp. at the LAST MINUTE

chestnut[2] *adj* deep reddish-brown: *her chestnut hair*

chest of drawers /ˌ· · ˈ·/ also **bureau** *AmE*— *n* a piece of furniture with several drawers, usu. used for holding clothes

chest·y /ˈtʃesti/ *adj infml* **1** *esp. BrE* showing or suffering from disease of the chest: *a chesty cough* | *He was a bit chesty, so I didn't send him to school.* **2** *derog* having large breasts —**-ily** *adv*

che·val glass /ʃəˈvæl glɑːs‖-glæs/ *n* a long movable mirror in an upright frame

chev·a·lier /ˌʃevəˈlɪəʳ/ *n rare* a KNIGHT, esp. one who is a member of certain honourable associations: *a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour in France*

Che·val·i·er /ʃəˈvælieɪ/, **Maur·ice** /ˈmɒrɪs‖ˈmɔː-/ (1888–1972) a French actor, singer, and entertainer who appeared on stage, film, and television around the world and was known for his charm and for his easily recognizable voice, esp. when he spoke or sang in English with a French ACCENT

Chev·i·ot Hills /ˌtʃeviət ˈhɪlz/ also **Cheviots**— [*the* + P] a range of hills between England and Scotland

Chev·ro·let /ˈʃevrəleɪ‖ˌʃevrəˈleɪ/ *n* also **Chevy** *infml* — *tdmk* an American car. The Chevrolet is usually thought of as a large family car. Many American people have grown up with these cars, and connect them with their youth: *I remember those evenings, kissing in the back seat of the old Chevy.*

chev·ron /ˈʃevrən/ *n* a piece of cloth in the shape V or V, worn on the SLEEVE of a uniform to show the wearer's rank

Chev·y /ˈʃevi/ *n infml* a CHEVROLET

chew[1] /tʃuː/ *v* [I (**on**);T (UP)] **1** to crush or keep biting with the teeth: *Chew your food well before you swallow it.* | *The dog was chewing on a bone.* | *He can't chew without his false teeth.* | *to chew tobacco* **2 chew the cud** *infml* to think deeply before making a decision **3 chew the fat** *infml* to have a long conversation about many subjects; CHAT: *We sat there drinking beer and chewing the fat until it was time to go home.* —see also **bite off more than one can chew** (BITE[1])

chew sbdy. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] *infml, esp. AmE* to speak angrily to: *He chewed out his secretary for being late to work.*

chew sthg. ↔ **over** *phr v* [T] *infml* to think about (a question, problem, etc.): *I'll chew it over for a few days and then let you have my answer.*

chew[2] *n* **1** [S] an act of chewing **2** [C] a sweet or piece of tobacco made to be chewed but not always swallowed: *a chew of tobacco* | *a penny chew* (=a sweet bought for a small sum of money)

chewing gum /ˈ·· ·/ also **gum**— *n* [U] a sticky substance usu. having a special, often sweet, taste, made to be chewed but not swallowed. Children often get rid of their chewing gum by sticking it under their chairs or desks in school, sometimes intending to chew it again later.

chew·y /ˈtʃuːi/ *adj* (of food) needing to be chewed; not very soft: *chewy meat|toffees*

Chey·enne /ʃaɪˈæn/ *n* [C;*the*+P] (a member of) a Native American people of the western plains of the US —see NATIVE AMERICAN (CULTURAL NOTE)

Chiang Kai-shek /ˌtʃæŋ ˌkaɪ ˈʃek/ (1887–1975) a Chinese politician who ruled Taiwan after the Nationalist government was forced out of MAINLAND China by the Communists in 1949

Chi·an·ti /kiˈænti‖kiˈɑːnti/ *n* [U] a red Italian wine

Chi·an·ti·shire /kiˈæntiʃəʳ/ *humor* an area of Tuscany, in Italy, where many upper-class British people live or go to stay: *The Nielsens are off there, too, to Chiantishire, or Tuscany as the Italians like to call it.*

chi·a·ro·scu·ro /kiˌɑːrəˈskʊərəʊ/ *n* [U] *tech* the arrangement or treatment of light and dark parts in a picture

chic /ʃiːk/ *n* [U] good style, esp. in one's manner or the way one dresses; a fashionable SOPHISTICATED quality: *She wears her clothes with great chic.* —**chic** *adj* : *a chic little hat* —~**ly** *adv*

Chi·ca·go /ʃəˈkɑːgəʊ/ a large city in the US state of Illinois, beside Lake Michigan. Chicago is the third largest city in the US, and an important industrial centre. Among its many SKYSCRAPERS (=very tall buildings) is the **Sears Tower**, the tallest building in the world at 443 m. Chicago is known for its MUSEUMS, such as the **Art Institute**, and its universities, such as the **University of Chicago** and **Northwestern University**. During PROHIBITION in the 1930s, the city was known for its GANGSTERS (=criminals), esp. Al Capone. Chicago is sometimes known as **the Windy City**. —see colour map on pages 1374-5

Chicago Board of Trade /ˌ··ˌ·ˈ·/ [*the*] an important market in Chicago, US, in which future contracts for the delivery of commodities (COMMODITY (1)) are bought and sold

Chicago Trib·une /ˌ··ˈ··/ [*the*] a daily newspaper produced in Chicago, in the US, which is thought of as the voice of the people of the Middle West —see also extra information on page 896

chi·ca·ne·ry /ʃɪˈkeɪnəri/ *n* [U] deception; dishonest and deceitful practice

Chi·ca·no /tʃɪˈkɑːnəʊ/ *n* **-nos** *old-fash AmE* a US citizen from Mexico, or whose family came from Mexico: *Many Chicanos live in the Southwest of the US.*

Chich·es·ter /ˈtʃɪtʃstəʳ/ a town in West Sussex in England where the local government for that COUNTY is based

Chichester, Sir Francis (1901–72) an English YACHTSMAN who sailed alone round the world in 1966–67 in his boat Gipsy Moth IV

chi·chi /ˈʃiːʃiː/ *adj infml, rather derog* trying to be fashionable but appearing too showy or decorated

Chi-Chi /ˈtʃiː tʃiː/ a famous PANDA that lived in London Zoo

chick /tʃɪk/ *n* **1** a baby bird, esp. a chicken: *chicks cheeping for their mother* **2** *old-fash sl* a young woman. Many women find this word offensive.

chick·a·dee /ˈtʃɪkədiː/ *n AmE* **1** a small American bird **2 My little chickadee** *esp. AmE* a phrase used as an expression of fondness (first used by W C Fields in the film of the same name)

chick·en[1] /ˈtʃɪkɨn/ *n* **1** [C] a common farmyard bird. A female chicken is a **hen** and a male chicken is a **cock** (*BrE*)/**rooster** (*AmE*): *He keeps chickens on his farm.* —see also CHICK, CLUCK[1] **2** [U] the meat of this bird eaten as food: *Do you like roast chicken? | chicken sandwiches* —see MEAT (USAGE)

▶CULTURAL NOTE In the US, soup made with chicken meat (**chicken soup**) is thought of as something that is good to eat when one is ill.◀

3 [C] *sl* a person who lacks courage; coward: *Don't be such a chicken!* **4** [U] *infml* a children's game to test one's courage: *to play chicken* **5 one's chickens will/have come home to roost** one's bad or unwise actions will cause problems for one now **6 no (spring) chicken** *infml* no longer young —see also **count one's chickens before they're hatched** (COUNT[1])

chicken[2] *adj* [F] *sl* cowardly

chicken[3] *v*

chicken out *phr v* [I (**of**)] *derog sl* to decide not to do something because of being afraid: *I wanted to tell the director what I thought, but I chickened out (of it) at the last minute.*

chick·en·feed /ˈtʃɪkɨnfiːd/ *n* [U] *sl* a small unimportant amount of money: *The bank offered to lend us £1000 but it's chickenfeed compared to what we need.*

chicken-fried steak /ˌ·· · ˈ·/ *n* [C,U] *AmE* a thin piece of BEEF coated with BREADCRUMBS and cooked in hot fat

chick·en·heart·ed /ˌtʃɪkɨnˈhɑːtɨdˑ‖-ɑːr-/ also **chicken-livered** *adj esp. lit* lacking courage; cowardly —~**ness** *n* [U]

chicken Ki·ev /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [U] a dish consisting of chicken breasts containing butter that has been given a special taste, esp. with GARLIC and PARSLEY

Chicken Lit·tle /ˌ·· ˈ··/ a story for children in which a chicken called Chicken Little thinks that the sky is falling and persuades many other animal friends that great danger is coming

chicken-liv·ered /ˌtʃɪkɨn ˈlɪvədˑ ‖ -vərdˑ/ *adj AmE infml* cowardly: *You chicken-livered idiot!*

chicken pox /ˈ·· ·/ *n* [U] an infectious disease, caught esp. by children, which causes a slight fever and spots on the skin

chick·en·shit /ˈtʃɪkɨnʃɪt/ *n AmE taboo* a person who lacks courage; COWARD

chicken wire /ˈ·· ·/ *n* [U] wire netting with HEXAGONAL-shaped holes used esp. for enclosing an area for chickens

chick·pea /ˈtʃɪkpiː/ *n* ‖ also **garbanzo, garbanzo bean** *AmE* (the bushy plant that produces) a seed like the common PEA but bigger, which is often eaten as food. Chick peas are the main vegetable in HUMMUS, a dish from the Middle East which is popular in the US and Britain.

chick·weed /ˈtʃɪkwiːd/ *n* [U] any of a large family of plants, esp. a common garden WEED with small white flowers

chic·le /ˈtʃɪkəl/ *n* [U] the thickened juice (GUM[2]) of a tropical American tree used in making CHEWING GUM

chic·o·ry /ˈtʃɪkəri/ *n* [U] **1** a thick-rooted European plant with blue flowers whose leaves are eaten raw as a vegetable **2** a powder made from the dried crushed roots of this plant and sometimes added to coffee to give a special taste

chide /tʃaɪd/ *v* **chided** *or* **chid** /tʃɪd/, **chid** *or* **chidden** /ˈtʃɪdn/ [I;T (**for, with**)] *fml or lit* to speak to (someone who has done wrong) angrily; REBUKE

chief[1] /tʃiːf/ *n* **1** [(**of**)] a leader, ruler, or head; the person in a group, party, organization, etc. who has the highest rank: *The Queen is chief of the armed forces by right. | the chief of police* (=of the police department) | *an American Indian tribal chief* **2** *old-fash infml* (used as a polite form of address by one man to another) **3 in chief** *lit* most of all; in particular **4 -in-chief** /ˌ· ˈ·/ having the highest rank: *In the Second World War Eisenhower was commander-in-chief of the Allied armed forces.* **5 too many chiefs and not enough Indians** *infml* too many people in charge of something, and not enough people to actually do the work

chief[2] *adj* [A] **1** highest in rank: *the chief clerk | chief priest | the chief political correspondent on the Washington Post | the chief executive of IBM* **2** most important; main: *Rice is the chief crop in this area. | the chief cause of crime | the chief thing to remember | the prosecution's chief witness* —see also CHIEFLY

chief con·stab·le /ˌ· ˈ···ˑ/ *n* a British police officer in charge of the police in a large area

chief cook and bot·tle-wash·er /ˌ· ˌ· · ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n infml humor* a person who is in charge of an event, esp. someone who has to do a lot of small unimportant jobs to make sure it goes well: *"Is there any more wine?" "Ask my husband — he's the chief cook and bottle-washer today!"*

Chief Ex·ec·u·tive /ˌ· ·ˈ···/ *n* [*the*] *AmE* the President of the US

chief ex·ec·u·tive of·fic·er /ˌ· ·ˈ··· ˌ···/ *n* **1** *AmE* also **CEO** a MANAGING DIRECTOR **2** *BrE* someone in a higher position than the MANAGING DIRECTOR in a company

chief in·spect·or /ˌ· ·ˈ··ˑ/ *n* (*often caps.*) a British police officer of middle rank: *Chief Inspector Jones*

chief jus·tice /ˌ· ˈ··ˑ/ *n* (*often caps.*) the head judge of a court of justice, esp. (in the US) of the Supreme Court: *Chief Justice Warren E Burger* —see also extra information on page 7|42

chief·ly /ˈtʃiːfli/ *adv* **1** mainly; mostly but not wholly: *Bread is made chiefly of flour. | The accident happened chiefly as a result of carelessness. | The company is chiefly concerned with computer software.* **2** above all; especially: *Chiefly, I ask you to remember to write to your mother.*

chief of staff /ˌ· · ˈ·/ *n* **chiefs of staff** (*often caps.*) **1** a high-ranking officer in the armed forces who serves as main adviser to a commander **2** the high-ranking official who advises the leader of a service organization, or group of employees: *the White House Chief of Staff* **3** one of the JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

Chief Rab·bi /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [*the*] the main leader of the JEWISH religion in a country

chief su·per·in·ten·dent /ˌ· ···ˈ··◂/ *n* (*often caps.*) a British police officer of high rank: *Chief Superintendent Brown*

chief·tain /ˈtʃiːftən/ *n* the leader of a tribe or similar group, esp. of a Scottish CLAN; chief – ~**ship** *n* [C;U]

Chief Whip /ˌ· ˈ·/ [*the*] (in British politics) a leading member of a political party who encourages active support for the party and its ideas and makes sure that party members attend meetings and vote

chif·fon /ˈʃɪfɒn‖ʃɪˈfɑːn/ *n* [U] a soft thin silky material used for scarves (SCARF), evening dresses, etc.: *a pink chiffon nightdress*

chif·fo·nier , -fonnier /ˌʃɪfəˈnɪəʳ/ *n* **1** a high CHEST OF DRAWERS; TALLBOY **2** a low movable cupboard with a top that can be used as a side table at meals

chig·ger /ˈtʃɪgəʳ/ *n AmE* a tiny insect which lives in tall grass. Chiggers bite animals and humans and suck blood.

chi·gnon /ˈʃiːnjɒn‖-jɑːn/ *n Fr* a knot of hair worn at the back of a woman's head

chi·hua·hua /tʃəˈwɑːwə/ *n* a type of very small dog

chil·blain /ˈtʃɪlbleɪn/ *n* a red painful swelling usu. on the toes or fingers, caused by coldness and poor blood supply

child /tʃaɪld/ *n* **child·ren** /ˈtʃɪldrən/ **1** a young human being of either sex, from before birth to the completion of physical development: *I've lived in this house since I was a child.* | *The disease is common among young children.* | *She's an* **only child.** (=She has no brothers or sisters.) | (fig.) *Peter's a child* (=inexperienced) *in money matters.* –see USAGE **2** a son or daughter of any age: *They have two children; their son is a doctor and their daughter is an architect.* | *Will you go and collect the children from school?* **3** [**(of)**] someone who is very influenced by a stated person, place, or situation: *We are all children of the nuclear age.* **4 children should be seen and not heard** a phrase used esp. in Victorian times to tell children to be quiet and not talk. The phrase is now used to talk about this old-fashioned idea of how children should behave. **5 get someone/be with child** *old use or bibl* to make someone/be PREGNANT **6 give me/us a child until it is seven and it is mine/ours for life** a saying believed to have been expressed first by the Jesuits –see JESUIT **7 great/heavy with child** *old use or bibl* (of a woman) near the time of giving birth –see also BRAINCHILD **8 never work with children or animals** a phrase often said by people who work in the world of acting, as children and animals are believed to be difficult to work with, and also to get all the attention and praise because they are very sweet

▷ USAGE A very young **child** under the age of about 18 months, is a **baby** or (more formally) an **infant**. A child who has just learned to walk is a **toddler**. A child up to the age of 9 or 10 is sometimes called a **little girl** or **little boy**, esp. by adults, and **girl** or **boy** can be used about anyone up to the age of about 20. However, someone aged between 13 and 19 may prefer to be called a **teenager** or a **young woman** or **young man**. Teenagers are sometimes called **young adults**, esp. where their health or social behaviour is being formally discussed. A younger teenager may also be formally called an **adolescent**, but this word often shows disapproval. A **youth** is an older, usu. male, teenager, but this word, too, usu. shows disapproval: *The police arrested several youths who were fighting.* To talk generally about anyone between the ages of about 10 and 25, people would usu. say simply **young people** or (more formally) **the young.** –see also GIRL (USAGE) 2 **Kid** (*infml*) is used both for **children:** *Let's take the* **kids** *to the park*, and (especially in American English) for young people: *We met a group of college* **kids.**◁

Child, Ju·li·a /ˈdʒuːliə/ (1912–) an American CHEF (=professional cook) who has taught cooking through her popular television programmes and books. Her high voice is easily recognized by many Americans.

child a·buse /ˈ· ·ˌ·/ *n* [U] the act of causing deliberate physical harm, either violent or sexual, to a child, or cruelty, or lack of attention which might be harmful to a child: *the current alarming increase in cases of child abuse* | *a helpline for victims of child abuse* – ~**r** *n*

► CULTURAL NOTE Child abuse appears to be a growing problem in both Britain and the US, and it is receiving a great deal of attention from the public, the MEDIA, and both governments. Action is being taken to deal with it through social care agencies, SOCIAL WORKERS, and the police. The public, teachers, and doctors are asked to report cases where they SUSPECT child abuse. It is often found to be a child's parents, esp. the father, who are responsible, but also sometimes it can be other family members, a teacher, or another person who looks after the child. In Britain, a child is often removed from the family home while the case is examined; child abusers are usu. considered to be criminals and are often sent to prison. In the US, though child abuse is illegal, the abusers are usu. offered COUNSELLING and support, and, wherever possible, families are kept together –see also CLEVELAND◄

child·bear·ing /ˈtʃaɪldˌbeərɪŋ/ *n* [U] the process of giving birth to children: *women of childbearing age*

child ben·e·fit /ˌ· ˈ···/ also **family allowance**– *n* [U] (in Britain) a small sum of money paid weekly by the government to every family for each child

child·birth /ˈtʃaɪldbɜːθ ‖ -bɜːrθ/ *n* [U] the act of giving birth to a child

child·care /ˈ· ·/ *n* [U] ‖ also **day care** *AmE* – the care of young children by people who are paid to do this: *Mothers thinking of returning to work will obviously want to explore the pros and cons of different childcare arrangements.* | *inadequate childcare provision in Britain*

child·hood /ˈtʃaɪldhʊd/ *n* [C *usu. sing.*; U] the state or time of being a child: *He had a happy childhood in the country.* –see also BOYHOOD, GIRLHOOD, SECOND CHILDHOOD

childhood sweet·heart /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* someone of the opposite sex and of about the same age as oneself whom one knew and liked very much when one was a child: *The end of the movie was so romantic; he married his childhood sweetheart.*

child·ish /ˈtʃaɪldɪʃ/ *adj* **1** of or for a child: *the little girl's high childish voice* **2** *derog* unsuitable for an adult; IMMATURE (2): *a childish remark* | *childish behaviour* | *It was very childish of him to lose his temper over something so unimportant.* –compare CHILDLIKE – ~**ly** *adv* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

child·less /ˈtʃaɪldləs/ *adj* having no children, esp. when one would like to have children: *a childless couple* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

child·like /ˈtʃaɪldlaɪk/ *adj often apprec* (typical) of a child, esp. having a natural lovable quality: *childlike trust* – compare CHILDISH

Child·line /ˈtʃaɪldlaɪn/ a British telephone HELP LINE for children to call when they are frightened or have problems they cannot discuss with people they know

child·min·der /ˈtʃaɪldmaɪndəʳ/ ‖ also **nanny** *or* **baby-sitter** *AmE* – *n* someone who is paid to look after other people's children, usu. when both parents are at work and usu. in the childminder's own home. In Britain, the local authority checks to see that the childminder's home is safe for children, that they are responsible people, etc. –compare BABY-SITTER, NANNY –**-ding** *n* [U]

child prod·i·gy /ˌ· ˈ···/ *n* an INFANT PRODIGY

child·proof /ˈtʃaɪldpruːf/ also **child-re·sist·ant** /ˈ· ·ˌ··/ *adj* not able to be damaged, opened, worked etc. by a child: *a childproof bottle* (= a bottle that a child cannot break or open)

chil·dren /ˈtʃɪldrən/ *pl of* CHILD

Children in Need /ˌ·· · ˈ·/ a British CHARITY organization which raises money on television and helps children in Britain and abroad

children of Is·rael /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ *n* [P] *Bibl* the JEWS

children's home /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* a house provided by the state with professional carers to look after children whose parents cannot take care of them because of e.g. illness, imprisonment, death, or the child's own difficult behaviour

child sex·u·al a·buse /ˌ· ˌ··· ·ˈ·/ *n* [U] sexual harm done to children –see CHILD ABUSE (CULTURAL NOTE)

child's play /ˈ· ·/ *n* [U] something very easy to do: *Going on a diet is child's play compared to giving up smoking.*

child sup·port /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* [U] *AmE* money that a parent, usu. a father, must pay after DIVORCE to support children who live with the other parent: *The court ordered him to pay $500 a month child support.*

Chil·e /ˈtʃɪli/ a long, narrow South American country bordered in the W by the Pacific Ocean and in the E by the

Andes; capital Santiago; population 12,961,000 (1989) —**Chilean**

chili /ˈtʃɪli/ *n* [C;U] *AmE for* CHILLI

chill[1] /tʃɪl/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) become cold, esp. without freezing: *Put the wine in the fridge to chill.* | *You must be chilled to the bone after being out on such a cold day.* **2** [T] to cause a cold feeling of fear: *His menacing eyes chilled her.* | *a chilling murder story* **3** [T] *esp. lit* to discourage or lower the spirits of: *Failure chilled his hopes.*

chill out *phr v* [I] *AmE sl* to calm down or relax when one has become worried, angry, or over-excited: *Chill out! Have a beer – it's Friday!* | *Chill out, man, I didn't do it on purpose!*

chill[2] *n* **1** [C] an illness marked by coldness and shaking of the body: *Don't go out in this weather – you'll catch a chill.* **2** [S] a slightly unpleasant degree of coldness: *There was a chill in the air this morning.* —see also CHILLY **3** [S] an unpleasant sensation of coldness, esp. from fear or discouragement: *The bad news cast a chill over the meeting.* | *The thought of them finding out about it struck a chill into her heart.* **4** [S] coldness of manner; (a state of) unfriendliness: *Recent events have led to a chill in relations between the two countries.*

chill[3] *adj* cold; chilly: *a chill wind* | (fig.) *a chill greeting*

chil·ler /ˈtʃɪlə^r/ *n infml* a film or book that is purposely made or written to be frightening

chil·li /ˈtʃɪli/ *BrE* ‖ also **chile, chili** *AmE– n* **chillies** **1** [C] the very hot-tasting seed case of a kind of PEPPER plant **2** [U] also **chilli powder**– a hot red powder made from this, used for giving a special taste to food, esp. Indian, African, or Mexican food —compare PEPPER **3** [U] also **chilli con car·ne** /ˌtʃɪli kən ˈkɑːni‖-ˈkɑːr-/– a dish of meat and beans cooked with this powder

chill·y /ˈtʃɪli/ *adj* **1** rather cold; cold enough to be uncomfortable: *It soon became chilly when the fire went out.* | *I feel chilly without a coat.* **2** unfriendly: *a chilly stare|welcome* **3** causing fear, anxiety, or discouragement: *the chilly facts* —**-iness** *n* [S;U]

Chil·tern Hills /ˌtʃɪltən ˈhɪlz‖-tərn-/ also **Chilterns**– [*the* + P] a range of hills in SE England

Chiltern Hun·dreds /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [*the* + P] the job of representing a particular government area in Buckinghamshire in Britain which no longer exists. Members of Parliament **apply for the Chiltern Hundreds** when they want to stop working before the next GENERAL ELECTION.

chime[1] /tʃaɪm/ *n* **1** the sound made (as if) by a set of bells: *The chime of the clock woke him up.* **2** [*usu. pl.*] a set of bells rung to produce a tune

chime[2] *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) ring: *The church bells chimed.* **2** [T] to show (the time) by ringing: *The clock chimed one o'clock.* **3** [I (TOGETHER, **with**)] *infml* to be in accordance or agreement: *Her views on this chime with mine.*

chime in *phr v* [I (**with**)] *infml* to interrupt or join in a conversation by expressing an opinion: *He's always ready to chime in with his opinion.* | *"I want to come, too." she chimed in.*

chi·me·ra , -maera /kaɪˈmɪərə, kɪ-/ *n* **1** an imaginary terrible female creature, made up of parts of different animals, which breathes fire **2** a dream that can never become true; unreal fancy

chi·me·ri·cal /kaɪˈmerɪkəl, kɪ-/ *adj often derog* imaginary; fanciful: *chimerical ideas|plans*

chim·ney /ˈtʃɪmni/ *n* **1** a hollow passage often rising above the roof of a building which allows smoke and gases to pass from a fire: *factory chimneys pouring smoke into the air* —see picture at HOUSE

►CULTURAL NOTE Santa Claus is believed to come down people's chimneys on Christmas Eve to bring them their presents. —see colour picture on page 1212◄

2 *tech* a narrow passage on a rock face, up which one can climb —see picture at MOUNTAIN **3** a glass tube often wide at the centre and narrow at the top, that is put around a flame in an oil lamp

chim·ney·breast /ˈtʃɪmnibrest/ *n esp. BrE* the wall which encloses a chimney and stands out into a room —compare MANTELPIECE

chimney cor·ner /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a seat by the side of a large open fireplace

chim·ney·piece /ˈtʃɪmnipiːs/ *n old-fash* a wooden or brick decorative covering fixed onto or built into the wall above and around the fire; MANTELPIECE

chim·ney·pot /ˈtʃɪmnipɒt‖-pɑːt/ *n* a short pipe made of metal or esp. EARTHENWARE (=baked clay), fixed to the top of a chimney —see picture at HOUSE

chim·ney·stack /ˈtʃɪmnistæk/ *n* **1** the tall chimney of a building such as a factory **2** *BrE* a group of small chimneys sticking up from a roof

chim·ney-sweep /ˈtʃɪmni-swiːp/ also **sweep** *infml*– *n* a person whose job is cleaning the insides of chimneys. In the past, chimney-sweeps often employed children to climb up into the chimneys, and often treated them badly. Now they use special long brushes. In Britain chimney-sweeps are believed to bring good luck, and some people will go to shake their hand, or even invite a chimney-sweep to their WEDDING, for this reason.

chim·pan·zee /ˌtʃɪmpænˈziː, -pən-/ also **chimp** /tʃɪmp/ *infml*– *n* a dark-haired African APE (=large monkey without a tail). Chimpanzees are thought to be the most intelligent of the apes. In British ZOOS in the past chimps were often dressed in clothes, sat at tables and given food to have a **chimpanzees' tea party** for people to watch, but now this is felt to be cruel. —see picture at APE

chin /tʃɪn/ *n* **1** the front part of the face (esp. of a human being) below the mouth: *His chin was completely covered by his beard.* | *He punched me on the chin.* —see also DOUBLE CHIN, and see picture at HEAD **2 (keep one's) chin up** *infml* to (try to) stay cheerful in a difficult situation: *He's having a pretty rough time but he seems to be keeping his chin up.* | *Chin up! Things can't get any worse!* —see also CHINLESS

chi·na /ˈtʃaɪnə/ *n* [U] **1** a hard white substance made by baking fine clay at high temperatures: *china cups* **2** also **chi·na·ware** /ˈtʃaɪnəweə^r/– plates, cups, etc., made from china or a similar substance; CROCKERY: *Please put the china away carefully.* —see also BONE CHINA, **bull in a china shop** (BULL[1] (5))

China the largest country in E Asia, bordered by the former USSR and Mongolia to the N, the former USSR to the W, and Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Laos, and Vietnam to the S; capital Beijing; population 1,133,692,000 (1990). China has the largest number of people of any country in the world, at over one BILLION. Chinese civilization is generally regarded as the oldest in the world. China was ruled by family dynasties (DYNASTY) until 1912 when it became a republic. In 1949 the Nationalists were defeated by the Communists and Mao Tse-tung declared China a People's Republic. —see also CHINESE, CONFUCIUS, CULTURAL REVOLUTION, GREAT LEAP FORWARD, GREAT WALL OF CHINA, LONG MARCH, MAO TSE-TUNG, MARCO POLO

China Sea /ˌ·· ˈ·/ [*the*] a part of the Pacific Ocean, off the coast of China

China tea /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] a kind of tea grown in China, dried in smoke which gives it a special taste

Chi·na·town /ˈtʃaɪnətaʊn/ *n* [C;U] an area in a city where there are Chinese shops, restaurants, and clubs, and where many Chinese people live. The most famous Chinatown is in the US city of San Francisco.

chin·chil·la /ˌtʃɪnˈtʃɪlə/ *n* [C;U] (the soft pale grey fur of) a small South American animal like a SQUIRREL with a long tail

chine /tʃaɪn/ *n tech* an animal's BACKBONE (=set of bones down the centre of the back) used as meat

Chi·nese /ˌtʃaɪˈniːz◂/ *n* **1** [*the* +P] people from China: *I like the Chinese.* **2** [U] the language of China. The spoken language varies widely across China but the written language is shared and understood everywhere. —see also CANTONESE, IDEOGRAM, MANDARIN **3** [C;U] *infml* (a restaurant serving) food of the kind eaten in China – **Chinese** *adj* : *I'm Chinese.* | *a Chinese vase*

Chinese cheq·uers /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *BrE* ‖ **Chinese checkers** *AmE– n* [U] a game for two to six players in which small balls are moved from hole to hole on a board in the shape of a star

Chinese lan·tern /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* a folding LANTERN or decoration like a lantern made of thin, usu. brightly coloured paper

Chinese medi·cine /ˌ·· ˈ·· ‖ ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n* [U] the method of preventing and treating illness that is customarily practised in China, which uses Chinese HERBS, and may

include ACUPUNCTURE. Still new to Britain and the US, this method is considered an ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE.

Chinese wall /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* a problem which seems too difficult to defeat

Chinese whis·pers /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *BrE* ‖ usu. **telephone** *AmE*– *n* [S] a game in which someone WHISPERS (= talks very quietly) a sentence into another's ear, who then whispers what has been heard to a third person and so on until the last person has been told. The last person then tells the group the sentence, which is usually completely different from the original and makes people laugh.

Chin·gach·gook /tʃɪnˈgɑːtʃguk/ the Indian chief in a number of stories by James Fenimore Cooper about Native American life

chink[1] /tʃɪŋk/ *n* [(**in**)] **1** [C] a narrow crack or opening: *He watched the girls through a chink in the wall.* **2** [C] a narrow beam (of light) shining through such a crack: *a chink of light in the darkness of the room* **3** [C] a small but dangerous fault or weakness: *a tiny chink in his argument | She prepared for the talks very carefully, knowing that any* **chink in her armour** (=weaknesses in her defence or argument) *would be seized upon.* **4** [S] the sound of chinking (CHINK[2]): *I heard the chink of glasses next door.*

chink[2] *v* to make a high sound like that of glasses hitting each other; CLINK[1]

Chink *n taboo derog sl* a Chinese person

Chink·ie , Chinky /ˈtʃɪŋki/ *n* **1** *BrE infml* a TAKEAWAY which sells Chinese food **2** *taboo derog sl* a Chinese person

chin·less /ˈtʃɪnləs/ *adj* **1** having a chin that is small or slopes inwards **2** *BrE infml* weak and cowardly

chinless won·der /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n BrE sl* a man from an upper-class family who appears to be rather stupid

chi·nos /ˈtʃiːnəʊz/ *n* [P] *AmE* trousers made from **chino**, a strong cotton material. They are produced in many different colours and are very popular, esp. with young men, because they are usu. inexpensive. –see PAIR (USAGE)

chin·strap /ˈtʃɪnstræp/ *n* the band round the chin, which helps to keep a HELMET in place

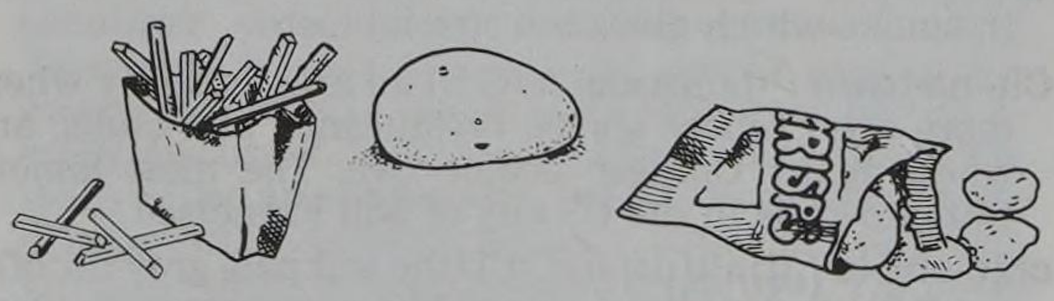
chintz /tʃɪnts/ *n* [U] cotton cloth printed with usu. flowery patterns, used for making curtains, furniture covers, etc.

chintz·y /ˈtʃɪntsi/ *adj* **1** made of or looking like chintz **2** *AmE infml* cheap and of low value

chin up /ˈ· ·/ also **pull up** *n AmE* an exercise in which one hangs on to a bar and pulls up one's body weight until one's chin is above the bar: *He did ten chin ups in quick succession.*

chin·wag /ˈtʃɪnwæg/ *n* [S] *BrE infml* an informal conversation; CHAT

chips



chips *BrE*/ French fries *AmE*

crisps *BrE*/ chips *AmE* & AustrE

chip[1] /tʃɪp/ *n* **1** a small piece broken off something: *a chip of glass|wood | chocolate chip cookies* –see picture at PIECE **2** a mark left when a small piece is broken off or knocked out of an object: *There's a chip in this cup.* **3** [*usu. pl.*] *BrE* ‖ **French fry** *AmE*– a long thin piece of potato cooked in deep fat: *She was frying chips. | oven-cooked chips* –see also FISH AND CHIPS

►CULTURAL NOTE 1 British people are known to be fond of fish and chips eaten together, but chips may be served as part of any main course or may be bought separately from a TAKEAWAY and eaten with salt and VINEGAR or tomato KETCHUP. 2 In Britain and the US many people now try to eat fewer chips because of their high fat content, which is felt to be unhealthy. There is a well-known phrase **chips with everything** which is used to describe a particular kind of poor quality British food in which everything is served with chips: *In British schools in the old days it used to be chips with everything, but now they have brought in the dieticians.*◄

4 [*usu. pl.*] also **potato chip**– *AmE & AustrE for* CRISP[1] **5** a flat plastic object (COUNTER[2] (2)) used for representing money in certain games **6** also **microchip, silicon chip**– a very small piece of SILICON containing a set of ELECTRONIC parts and their connections, which is used in computers and other machines –compare INTEGRATED CIRCUIT **7** a shot or kick in football, RUGBY, etc. in which the ball is sent into the air, esp. over an opposing player, and travels only a short distance **8** a short GOLF shot that sends the ball high in the air and onto the green **9 a chip off the old block** *infml, often apprec* a person very like his or her mother or father in character **10 have a 'chip on one's shoulder** *infml* to be quarrelsome or easily offended, esp. as a result of feeling unfairly treated: *He's got a chip on his shoulder about not having gone to university.* **11 have had one's chips** *BrE infml* to have lost one's power, position, life, etc.: *I'm afraid we've had our chips – the company has gone bankrupt.* **12 when the chips are down** *infml* when a very important point is reached at which an important decision has to be made or serious action taken: *When the chips are down, you have only yourself to depend on.* –see also BLUE CHIP

chip[2] *v* **-pp-** **1** [I;T] to (cause to) lose a small piece from the surface or edge, e.g. by breaking or dropping: *This china chips easily. | Someone's chipped my best glass. | I'm afraid I've chipped a piece out of|off this saucer.* **2** [T] *esp. BrE* to cut (potatoes) into small pieces ready to be cooked as CHIPS[1] (3) **3** [T] (in football, GOLF, etc.) to kick or hit (a ball) in a short, high ARC

chip away *phr v* **1** [T] (**chip** sthg. ↔ **away**) to destroy bit by bit, by breaking small pieces off: *I chipped away the damaged brick and replaced it with a new one.* **2** [I (**at**)] to (try to) break small pieces off something: *He was chipping away at the rock with a hammer.*

chip in *phr v infml* **1** [I (**with**); T+*that*] to enter a conversation between other people with an opinion: *John chipped in with a remark|chipped in that it was time to go home.* **2** [I (**with**);T (=**chip in** sthg.)] to add (one's share of money): *If everyone chips in (a pound) we could get her something really nice.*

chip·board /ˈtʃɪpbɔːd‖-bɔːrd/ *n* [U] board made from waste pieces of wood mixed with glue, used as a building material

chip·munk /ˈtʃɪpmʌŋk/ also **ground squirrel** *n* a small American animal like a SQUIRREL with a long bushy tail and black-and-white bands along its back

chip·o·la·ta /ˌtʃɪpəˈlɑːtə/ *n* a small thin SAUSAGE

chip pan /ˈ· ·/ *n* a deep pan with a wire basket inside used for cooking esp. CHIPS (= potatoes cut into usu. long thin pieces and cooked in oil)

Chip·pen·dale /ˈtʃɪpəndeɪl/ *adj, n* [U] (of or being) an 18th-century English furniture style known for its graceful shape and fine decoration: *Chippendale chairs*

a Chippendale chair



Chip·pen·dales /ˈtʃɪpəndeɪlz/ , **The** an American group of attractive men with well-developed muscles who entertain women by performing in a show in which they remove most of their clothes

chip·per /ˈtʃɪpəʳ/ *adj esp. AmE* cheerful and active; SPRIGHTLY

Chip·pe·wa /ˈtʃɪpəwɑː/ [C;*the* +P] (a member of) a Native American people of the US state of Michigan, also called **Ojibwa** –see NATIVE AMERICAN (CULTURAL NOTE)

chip·ping /ˈtʃɪpɪŋ/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] *esp. BrE* a small rough piece of stone used when putting new surfaces on roads, railway tracks, etc.: *loose chippings on the road*

chip·py /ˈtʃɪpi/ *n N Eng sl* a shop which sells cooked fish and CHIPS[1] (3)

chip shop /ˈ· ·/ also **chippy** *n* a shop which cooks and sells CHIPS (CHIP[1](3)), fish, PIES etc. which are usu. taken away to eat. Chip shops are very popular in Britain esp. when

people want a quick cheap meal.

Chi·rac /ˈʃɪəræk‖ʃɪəˈrɑːk/, **Jacques** /ʒæk‖ʒɑːk/ (1932–) a French RIGHT-WING politician who was Prime Minister from 1974 to 1976 and 1986 to 1988

chi·ro·man·cy /ˈkaɪrəmænsi/ *n* [U] *tech* the art or practice of telling someone's character or their future by examining their hands; PALMISTRY

chi·rop·o·dist /kɪˈrɒpədɪst, ʃɪ-‖-ˈrɑː-/ also **podiatrist** *esp. AmE*– *n* a person who looks after the human foot and treats diseases of the foot –**-dy** *n* [U]

chi·ro·prac·tic /ˈkaɪərəpræktɪk/ *n* [U] the method of treating back, joint, and muscle pain by feeling and pressing the bones, esp. those of the back and neck –**-tor** *n*

chirp /tʃɜːp‖tʃɜːrp/ also **chir·rup** /ˈtʃɪrəp‖ˈtʃɪ-, ˈtʃɜː-/– *v* **1** [I (AWAY)] to make the short sharp sound(s) of small birds or some insects **2** [I;T (OUT)] to say or speak in a way that sounds like this –**chirp** *n*

chirp·y /ˈtʃɜːpi‖ˈtʃɜːrpi/ *adj infml, esp. BrE* happy and cheerful; LIGHT-HEARTED: *a chirpy little song | in a chirpy mood* –**-ily** *adv* –**-iness** *n* [U]

chis·el[1] /ˈtʃɪzəl/ *n* a metal tool with a sharp cutting edge at the end of a blade, used for cutting into or shaping wood, stone, etc. –see picture at TOOL

chisel[2] *v* **-ll-** *BrE* ‖ **-l-** *AmE* **1** [I;T+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] to cut or shape with a chisel: *She chiselled an inscription on the marble. | He chiselled a hole in the door to fit a new lock.* –see also COLD CHISEL **2** [T **(out of)**] *old-fash sl* **a** to trick; deceive: *He's chiselled me out of £5!* **b** to obtain by deceit

▷ USAGE You can **chisel** wood or stone **into** a shape; **chisel (out)** a shape **from, in,** or **out of** wood or stone; or **chisel** words, etc. **on** a wooden or stone surface.◁

chis·el·ler *BrE* ‖ **-eler** *AmE* /ˈtʃɪzələr/ *n old-fash sl* a person who gets things by deceitful and unfair practices

Chis·holm /ˈtʃɪzəm/ **, Shir·ley** /ˈʃɜːli ‖ ʃɜːr-/ (1924–) an American politician, who was the first black woman to be elected to CONGRESS (1969–83)

Chisholm Trail /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* a path leading from Texas to Kansas along which cattle were driven in the late 1800s. There is an old popular song about the Chisholm Trail.

chit[1] /tʃɪt/ *n* a short letter, esp. a signed note showing money owed or paid: *He'd brought a chit from the manager entitling him to collect the goods.*

chit[2] *n old-fash infml, often derog* a spirited and usu. disrespectful young woman: *a chit of a girl*

chit·chat /ˈtʃɪt-tʃæt/ *n* [U] *infml* informal light conversation or GOSSIP –**chitchat** *v* [I] **-tt-**

chit·ter·lings /ˈtʃɪtəlɪŋz‖-ər-/ also **chit·lings** /ˈtʃɪtlɪŋz/ **chitlins**– *n* [P] *esp. AmE* the INTESTINES of a pig eaten as food. These are one of the foods regarded as SOUL FOOD by black people in the US.

Chit·ty Chit·ty Bang Bang /ˌtʃɪti tʃɪti ˈbæŋ bæŋ/ a film and song about a car of the same name which has a character of its own and can fly

chiv·al·rous /ˈʃɪvəlrəs/ *adj* (esp. of men) showing bravery, honour, generosity, and good manners, esp. to women: *A chivalrous old gentleman opened the door for her.* –**~ly** *adv*

chiv·al·ry /ˈʃɪvəlri/ *n* [U] **1** (in the MIDDLE AGES) the beliefs or practices of noble soldiers (KNIGHTS) as a group **2** the qualities (such as bravery, honour, generosity, and kindness to the weak and poor) which this system aimed at developing **3 the age of chivalry is dead/gone** men no longer behave in the old gentle, polite way towards women. Sometimes if a man opens a door, for example, for a lady, someone may say approvingly or jokingly, "You see, the age of chivalry is not dead."

chives /tʃaɪvz/ *n* [P] a plant related to the onion, with narrow grasslike leaves used for giving a special taste to food

chiv·y , chivvy /ˈtʃɪvi/ *v* [T (UP, ALONG)] *infml* to urge (someone) to do something or to hurry, esp. in an annoying way: *I'll have to chivy the children up*/along, otherwise they'll be late for school. [+*obj*+*to-v*] *She chivied him to help her with all the paperwork.*

Chloe , Chloë /ˈkləʊi/ see DAPHNIS AND CHLOE

chlo·ride /ˈklɔːraɪd/ *n* [C;U] a chemical compound that is a mixture of chlorine with another substance, often used for cleaning and disinfecting: *sodium chloride*

chlo·ri·nate /ˈklɔːrɪneɪt/ *v* [T] to disinfect by putting in chlorine: *Water is usually chlorinated in public swimming pools to keep it pure. | chlorinated water* –**-nation** /ˌklɔːrɪˈneɪʃən/ *n* [U]

chlo·rine /ˈklɔːriːn/ *n* [U] a greenish-yellow strong-smelling gas that is a simple substance (ELEMENT) and is found in many chemical compounds. It is usu. added to the water in public swimming pools to help to keep it clean.

chlo·ro·fluo·ro·car·bon /ˌklɔːrəʊfluːərəʊˈkɑːbən‖-ˈkɑːr-/ *n* see CFC

chlor·o·form[1] /ˈklɒrəfɔːm, ˈklɔː-‖ˈklɔːrəfɔːrm/ *n* [U] a colourless strong-smelling poisonous chemical used as an ANAESTHETIC (=a substance that makes people unable to feel anything)

chloroform[2] *v* [T] to make unconscious with chloroform: *The kidnappers tied him up and then chloroformed him.*

chlo·ro·phyll /ˈklɒrəfɪl, ˈklɔː-‖ˈklɔː-/ *n* [U] the green-coloured substance in the stems and leaves of plants

choc /tʃɒk‖tʃɑːk, tʃɔːk/ also **choc·cy** /ˈtʃɒki‖ˈtʃɑː-, ˈtʃɔː-/– *n* [*usu. pl.*] *BrE infml* a CHOCOLATE[1] (2): *a box of chocs*

choc·a·hol·ic /ˌtʃɒkəˈhɒlɪk‖ˌtʃɑːkəˈhɔː-, ˌtʃɔːk-/ *n* a CHOCOHOLIC

choc-ice /ˈ· ·/ *BrE* ‖ **ice cream bar** *AmE* – *n* a brick-shaped piece of ice cream with a covering of chocolate

chock[1] /tʃɒk‖tʃɑːk/ *n* a shaped piece of wood placed under a door, boat, barrel, or wheel to prevent it from moving; WEDGE. When an aircraft or other vehicle is ready to start moving, people sometimes shout "Chocks away!", meaning "remove the chocks".

chock[2] *v* [T (UP)] to hold in place or support with a chock

chock-a-block /ˌtʃɒk ə ˈblɒk◂‖ˈtʃɑːk ə ˌblɑːk/ *adj, adv* [F (**with**)] *infml* very crowded; packed tightly: *The road was chock-a-block with cars again today.*

chock-full /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *adj* [F (**of**)] *infml* completely full: *The train was chock-full of tourists.*

choc·o·hol·ic /ˌtʃɒkəˈhɒlɪk‖ˌtʃɑːkəˈhɔː-, ˌtʃɔːk-/ also **chocaholic**– *n* a person who cannot control the urge to eat chocolate

choco·late[1] /ˈtʃɒklɪt‖ˈtʃɑːkəlɪt, ˈtʃɔːk-/ *n* **1** [U] a solid sweet usu. brown substance made by crushing the cooked seeds of a tropical American tree (CACAO), eaten as a sweet: *a piece|bar of chocolate | chocolate cake | chocolate biscuits* **2** [C] also **choc, choccy** *BrE infml*– a small sweet made by covering a centre, such as a nut, with this substance: *a half-pound box of chocolates | liqueur chocolates* –see also CHOCOLATES **3** [C;U] (a cupful of) a drink made from hot milk or water mixed with powder made from this substance: *a mug of hot chocolate* –compare COCOA; see also MILK CHOCOLATE, PLAIN CHOCOLATE

chocolate[2] *adj* of a variable usu. brownish grey colour – **chocolate** *n* [U]

chocolate box[1] /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a colourful attractive box in which chocolates are sold

chocolate-box[2] *adj* [A] *BrE derog* pretty or SENTIMENTAL (2), in the way that pictures on a BOX OF CHOCOLATES sometimes are: *a chocolate-box scene* **chocolate-boxy, chocolate-boxey** *adj* : *I didn't like the cottage much – too chocolate-boxy for my taste.*

chocolate chip cook·ie /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ *n AmE* a sweet BISCUIT containing bits of chocolate. Chocolate chip cookies are one of Americans' favourite sweets. They are often baked at home, or are freshly baked by small stores.

chocolate milk /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] milk which is mixed with chocolate powder

choco·lates /ˈtʃɒklɪts‖ˈtʃɑːkəlɪts, ˈtʃɔːk-/ *n* [P] a box containing CHOCOLATES[1] (2): *I gave her some chocolates as a small thank-you.*

Choc·taw /ˈtʃɒktɔː‖ˈtʃɑːk-/ [C; *the*+P] (a member of) a Native American people from the southeastern US –see NATIVE AMERICAN (CULTURAL NOTE)

choice[1] /tʃɔɪs/ *n* **1** [C (**between**)] an act of choosing or a chance to choose: *Candidates for the degree were offered|given a choice between a thesis and an exam. | I'm confident that we made a good choice|the right choice. | I didn't have to work all weekend – I did it* **by choice.** *| Those who come early to the sale get first choice. | a difficult choice* **2** [C (**for, as**)] a person or thing chosen: *He was a very good choice as chairman. | Italy was our*

second choice – all the flights to Greece were booked up. | *You can have whichever you want –* **take your choice.** **3** [U (**between**)] the power or right to choose: *Philosophers disagree about whether we have free choice|freedom of choice.* | *We had no choice but to accept the majority decision.* **4** [C (**of**)] a variety from which to choose: *There is a wide choice of software available for this model.* –see also CHOOSE, HOBSON'S CHOICE

choice[2] *adj* **1** *fml* (esp. of food) of high quality: *choice apples* **2** belonging to a standard of meat in the US, set by the FDA: *choice steak* **3** *lit or humor* (of language) well chosen: *She told him what she thought of him in a few choice* (=suitably angry) *phrases.* – ~**ly** *adv* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

choir /kwaɪəʳ/ *n* **1** [+*sing.*/*pl. v*] a group of people who sing together, for example at school or during religious services: *The church choir is|are singing tonight.* –see also CHORAL SOCIETY **2** [*usu. sing.*] the part of a church where these people sit: *The choir dates from the 14th century.*

choir·boy /ˈkwaɪəbɔɪ‖-ər-/ *n* a boy who sings in a church choir –compare CHORISTER

►CULTURAL NOTE In Britain, choirboys are often shown, esp. in humorous drawings, as being very sweet and looking like little ANGELS, but in fact having a strong sense of MISCHIEF.◄

choir loft /ˈ· ˌ·/ *n esp. AmE* a raised area, often at the front of a church, where the choir sits

choir·mas·ter /ˈkwaɪəmɑːstəʳ‖-ərmæ-/ *n* the director of a choir

choir school /ˈ· ·/ *n* a school for choirboys, connected with a church

choke[1] /tʃəʊk/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) have great difficulty in breathing or stop breathing because of blocking of or damage to the breathing passages: *He almost choked to death on a fish bone.* | *She choked with laughter|fury.* | (fig.) *plants choked by weeds* **2** [T (UP, **with**)] to fill (a space or passage) completely, so that movement is impossible: *Leaves choked up the pipe.* | *The roads were choked with traffic.* **3** [T] *tech* to use a CHOKE[2] (2) to reduce the amount of air to (an engine) in order to make starting easier

choke sthg. ↔ **back|down** *phr v* [T] to control (esp. violent or very sad feelings) as if by holding them in the throat: *to choke back one's anger|one's tears*

choke sbdy. ↔ **off** *phr v* [T] *infml* to stop, get rid of, or prevent: *They'd ruthlessly choked off all opposition to their plans.*

choke[2] *n* **1** the act or sound of choking **2** an apparatus that controls the amount of air going into a car engine, esp. to help a cold engine start: *Pull the choke out.* (=the control button that works it) –see picture at CAR

choke·cher·ry /ˈtʃəʊkˌtʃeri/ *n* **chokecherries** *AmE* a kind of sour CHERRY: *chokecherry jam*

choked /tʃəʊkt/ also **choked up** /ˌ· ˈ·/ *BrE– adj* [F] *sl* angry or upset: *I was really choked to hear he'd died.* | *She seemed choked up about it.*

chok·er /ˈtʃəʊkəʳ/ *n* a NECKLACE or narrow band of decorative material worn very tightly round a woman's neck

chok·y , chokey /ˈtʃəʊki/ *n* [(*the*) U] *BrE old-fash sl* prison

chol·er /ˈkɒləʳ‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* [U] *lit* anger; bad temper – ~**ic** *adj* – ~**ically** /kli/ *adv*

chol·e·ra /ˈkɒlərə‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* [U] an infectious disease caused by bacteria which attacks esp. the stomach and bowels causing severe DIARRHOEA, sickness, etc., and often leads to death

cho·les·te·rol /kəˈlestərɒl‖-rəʊl/ *n* [U] a substance found in all cells of the body, which helps to carry fats, and too much of which has been said to be bad for the arteries (ARTERY). In Britain and the US, people are now advised to reduce the amount of cholesterol that they eat, e.g. by eating fewer eggs and less RED MEAT: *cholesterol-free foods* (=which contain no cholesterol)

chomp /tʃɒmp‖tʃɑːmp, tʃɔːmp/ *v* [I;T] to CHAMP[1]

Chom·sky /ˈtʃɒmski‖ˈtʃɑː-/, **No·am** /ˈnəʊəm/ (1928–) an American PHILOSOPHER and LINGUIST (= someone who is involved with language) who has produced many new ideas about language

choose /tʃuːz/ *v* **chose** /tʃəʊz/, **chosen** /ˈtʃəʊzən/ **1** [I (**between, from**); T] to pick out freely, and after consideration, from a number of things, possibilities, etc.: *It was such a big menu I didn't know what to choose.* | *Have you chosen (a hat) yet?* | *He chose his words carefully, hoping to avoid a quarrel.* | *She's been chosen as the new club president.* | *Anyone choosing politics as a career must face intense competition.* | *We had to choose between leaving early and paying for a taxi.* | *There's* **little|nothing to choose between them.** (=they are both alike|equally good) | *There are ten to choose from.* [+*obj(i)*+*obj(d)*] *She chose him a book.* [+*obj*+**for**] *She chose a book for him.* [+*obj*+*to-v*] *They chose him to represent them.* [+*wh-*] *I'll let you choose where we should go to eat.* **2** [I;T+*to-v*|*that*; *obj*] to decide: *Do as you choose.* (=as you want) | *They chose to ignore her warning.* | *He chose not to go home until later.* | *I chose that we should stay.* –see also CHOICE[1]

choos·y , choosey /ˈtʃuːzi/ also **picky** *AmE– adj* (too) careful in choosing; hard to please: *Jean's very choosy about what she eats.*

chop[1] /tʃɒp‖tʃɑːp/ *v* **-pp-** **1** [T] to cut by repeatedly hitting with a heavy sharp-ended tool, such as an AXE: *They're chopping wood in the forest.* | *I chopped a branch off the tree.* **2** [I (AWAY, **at**)] to make a quick stroke or repeated strokes with a sharp-ended tool: *I've been chopping away (at this tree) for half an hour but it's still standing.* **3** [T] to make or produce by doing this: *Will you chop the firewood, please?* | *We had to chop a path through the forest.* **4** [T] to cut into small pieces: *Chop the onions then fry them in the oil.* **5** [T] to hit (a ball) with a quick downward stroke **6** [T *often pass.*] *infml* to bring to an end or reduce: *The government has chopped funding for the arts.* | *The budget has been chopped by half.*

chop sthg. ↔ **down** *phr v* [T] to cause (esp. a tree) to fall by chopping: *to chop down an oak tree*

chop sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] to cut into small pieces: *Those chunks of meat are rather large – could you chop them up a bit smaller?*

chop[2] *n* **1** a small piece of meat, esp. lamb or PORK, usu. containing a bone: *We're having lamb chops for dinner.* **2** a quick short cutting blow with an AXE or similar weapon **3** a short sharp blow, as in BOXING, KARATE, etc. **4 get the chop** *BrE sl* **a** to be dismissed from work **b** to be stopped suddenly by official action: *Our building plan got the chop; it was too expensive.* –see also CHOPS

chop[3] *v* **-pp-** [I (ABOUT)] **1** (esp. of the wind) to change direction: (fig.) *One minute you want to go, the next you don't – I wish you'd stop chopping about.* **2 chop and change** *BrE* to keep changing (one's opinions, plans, activities, etc.): *I wish you wouldn't chop and change (your plans) like this; make up your mind!* **3 chop logic** to use arguments which seem reasonable but which are in fact false

chop-chop /ˌ· ˈ·/ *adv, interj BrE infml* quickly; without delay: *Chop-chop! We'll miss the bus at this rate.*

chop·house /ˈtʃɒphaʊs‖ˈtʃɑːp-/ *n* **-houses** /haʊzɨz/ *esp. old use* a restaurant specializing in STEAK and CHOPS[2] (1)

Chop·in /ˈʃɒpæn‖ˈʃəʊ-/, **Fréd·é·ric** /ˈfredərɪk/ (1810–49) a Polish COMPOSER, one of the best known and most admired composers of piano music of all time, who lived with the writer George Sand.

chop·per /ˈtʃɒpəʳ‖ˈtʃɑː-/ *n* **1** a heavy sharp-ended tool for cutting wood or meat –see picture at AXE **2** *sl for* HELICOPTER **3** *sl* a motorcycle with very long front FORKS (=supports for the front wheel)

chop·pers /ˈtʃɒpəz‖ˈtʃɑːpərz/ *n* [P] *sl for* teeth

chopping board /ˈ·· ·/ also **chopping block** *n* a thick flat piece of wood or plastic on which food is placed while it is cut into small pieces

chop·py /ˈtʃɒpi‖ˈtʃɑːpi/ *adj* (of water) with many short rough irregular waves –**-piness** *n* [U]

chops /tʃɒps‖tʃɑːps/ *n* [P] the fleshy covering of an animal's jaw: (fig., *derog*) *He* **licked his chops** *as he thought of all the money he'd make on the deal.* (=looked forward eagerly to his profit)

chop·stick /ˈtʃɒp-stɪk‖ˈtʃɑːp-/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] either of a pair of narrow sticks held between the thumb and fingers and used in E Asian countries for lifting food to the mouth –see picture at STICK

Chop·sticks /ˈtʃɒpstɪks‖ˈtʃɑːp-/ a well-known simple tune that people sometimes play on the piano, esp. when they are BORED or thinking about something else

chop su·ey /ˌtʃɒp ˈsuːi‖ˌtʃɑːp-/ *n* [U] a Chinese dish made of small pieces of vegetables and meat or chicken served with rice —compare CHOW MEIN

cho·ral /ˈkɔːrəl/ *adj* of or sung by a CHOIR or CHORUS: *a choral group | choral music*

cho·rale /kɒˈrɑːl‖kəˈræl, -rɑːl/ *n* a HYMN (=a song of praise) to be sung in a church: *a Bach chorale*

choral so·ci·ety /ˈ·· ·ˌ···/ *n* a group of people who sing together and are not connected with a church

chord[1] /kɔːd‖kɔːrd/ *n* a combination of two or more musical notes sounded at the same time: *the opening chords of a sonata* —see also **strike a chord** (STRIKE[1] (16))

chord[2] *n* a straight line joining two points on a curve: *a chord of a circle*

chore /tʃɔːr/ *n* **1** a regular and necessary piece of work or job, esp. in a house: *the daily chores of cleaning, cooking, and shopping | the administrative chores of the office* **2** a piece of uninteresting, difficult, or unpleasant work: *It's such a chore filling in tax forms.*

chor·e·og·raph /ˈkɒriəgrɑːf, ˈkɔː-‖ˈkɔːriəgræf/ *v* [T] to make up or arrange the steps and dances for (a BALLET or piece of music)

choreographer /ˌkɒriˈɒgrəfəʳ, ˌkɔː-‖ˌkɔːriˈɑːg-/ *n* a person who choreographs a piece of music

chor·e·og·ra·phy /ˌkɒriˈɒgrəfi, ˌkɔː-‖ˌkɔːriˈɑːg-/ *n* [U] the art of making up or arranging dances for the stage

chor·is·ter /ˈkɒrɪstəʳ‖ˈkɔːr-, ˈkɑːr-/ *n* a member of a group of people who sing together (CHOIR), esp. a boy who sings in a church —compare CHOIRBOY

chor·tle /ˈtʃɔːtl‖ˈtʃɔːrtl/ *v, n* [I] (to give) a laugh of pleasure and satisfaction; CHUCKLE: *He chortled with delight when I told him my news.*

cho·rus[1] /ˈkɔːrəs/ *n* **1** [C] a part of a song repeated after each VERSE (=a group of lines) of a song: *The audience joined in the chorus. —compare* VERSE (2) **2** [C+*sing./pl. v*] a group of people who sing together: *the Brighton Festival Chorus* **3** [C] a piece of music written to be sung by such a group **4** [C+*sing./pl. v*] a group of dancers, singers, or actors who play a supporting part in a film or show: *The chorus is/are dressed as fairies. | She's a star, but I'm just a* **chorus girl**. **5** [S (**of**)] something said by many people at one time: *The election results were greeted by a chorus of groans.* **6** [C] *tech* **a** (in ancient Greek plays) a group of actors who used poetry and music to explain or give opinions on the action of the play **b** (in Elizabethan plays) a person who makes a speech before, after, or during the play, explaining or giving opinions on the action of the play —see also DAWN CHORUS

chorus[2] *v* [T] to sing or say at the same time: *The papers all chorused the praises of the president.*

chose /tʃəʊz/ *past tense of* CHOOSE

cho·sen /ˈtʃəʊzən/ *past participle of* CHOOSE —see also WELL-CHOSEN

chosen peo·ple /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [*the*+P] any of various peoples who believe they are chosen by God esp. the JEWS

Chou En-lai /ˌtʃəʊ en ˈlaɪ/ (1898–1976) a Chinese politician who was PRIME MINISTER of China from 1949 to 1976

chow[1] /tʃaʊ/ also **chow chow** /ˈ· ·/— *n* a dog with a thick coat and a blue tongue, originally bred in China

chow[2] *n* [U] *sl* food

chow[3] *v*

chow down *phr v* [I;T(=chow sthg. ↔ **down**)] *AmE sl* to eat as though one is very hungry, and showing pleasure

chow·der /ˈtʃaʊdəʳ/ *n* [U] a thick soup prepared from bits of fish and other sea animals (SHELLFISH), vegetables, meat, and often milk: *clam chowder*

chow mein /ˌtʃaʊ ˈmeɪn/ *n* [U] a Chinese dish made of bits of vegetables and meat or chicken mixed with NOODLES —compare CHOP SUEY

Christ[1] /kraɪst/ *n* **1** also **Jesus Christ, Jesus**— the man on whose life, death, and teachings Christianity is based. According to the Bible, the holy book of the Christians, Jesus was the son of God, born on Earth to the Virgin Mary. He died on a CROSS[1] (2) to save all men and women from their SINS. **2** [*the*] the MESSIAH (1) —see also JESUS

Christ[2] also **Jesus Christ, Jesus, Christ Almighty**— *interj sl* (used for expressing annoyance, unwelcome surprise, etc.): *Christ! I've forgotten the keys!* —see JESUS (USAGE), SAKE (USAGE)

Christ·church /ˈkraɪstʃɜːtʃ‖-ɜːr-/ a city in New Zealand, in the E of South Island

chris·ten /ˈkrɪsən/ *v* [T] **1** to make someone (esp. a baby) a member of a Christian church by the ceremony of BAPTISM and usu. the giving of a name; BAPTIZE: *The baby was christened by the priest.* [+*obj*+*n*] *We christened our baby John.* | (fig.) *The ship was christened the Queen Mary.* (=given this name at a ceremony) | (fig.) *Party members who did not support her policies were christened* (=given the NICKNAME) *"Wets" by the Prime Minister.* **2** *infml, esp. BrE* to use for the first time: *Have you christened your new car yet?* —**~ing** *n* [C;U]

Chris·ten·dom /ˈkrɪsəndəm/ *n* [U] *old use* **1** all Christian people in general **2** the Christian countries of the world

Chris·tian[1] /ˈkrɪstʃən, -tiən/ *n* **1** a person who believes in the teachings of Christ or belongs to a Christian church: *When did you first become a Christian?* **2** *infml* (used by Christians) a good person

Christian[2] *adj* **1** [*no comp.*] (believing in or belonging to any of the branches) of Christianity: *the Christian church | Christian ideas* —opposite **non-Christian** **2** (*often not cap.*) *apprec* following the example of Christ; kind, generous, etc.: *It wasn't very Christian of you to laugh at his tale of woe.* —opposite **unchristian**

Christian[3] the main character in *The Pilgrim's Progress* whose story tells of a religious person's journey through life

Christian Aid /ˌ·· ˈ·/ a Christian CHARITY organization which helps developing countries

Christian e·ra /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [*the*+S] the system of time counted from the birth of Christ —see also AD, BC, CE

Chris·ti·an·i·ty /ˌkrɪstiˈænɨti/ *n* [U] the religion based on the life and teachings of Christ. Christianity began in Palestine in the first century and was spread by missionaries (MISSIONARY). In the West it later split into a number of related divisions. The three main divisions of the Christian church are the Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Eastern Orthodox Churches: *He converted to Christianity in 1987. | "Love thy neighbour" is one of the basic tenets of Christianity.*

Christian name /ˈ·· ·/ *n* (esp. in Christian countries) a person's FIRST NAME —see FIRST NAME (USAGE)

Christian Sci·ence /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [U] a branch of Christianity started by Mary Baker Eddy in America in 1866. It includes the belief that illness is cured by means of faith. Christian Scientists do not take medicines or have SURGERY; instead, they talk with a **Christian Science Practitioner**, who helps them find a way to cure or deal with their illness according to their religion. —**-entist** *n*

Christian Science Mon·i·tor /ˌ·· ˈ·· ˌ···/ [*the*] a daily American newspaper which reports on matters of national and international interest —see also extra information on page 896

Chris·tie /ˈkrɪsti/, **Dame Ag·a·tha** /ˈægəθə/ (1890–1976) an English writer of popular books and plays, many of which have been made into films. Her most famous characters are the DETECTIVES Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple, and two of her best-known books are *Murder on the Orient Express* and *Death on the Nile*: *an Agatha-Christie style country house murder* —see also MOUSETRAP

Chris·tie's /ˈkrɪstiz/ a large AUCTION HOUSE with branches in London and New York, where valuable paintings, furniture, etc., are sold —compare SOTHEBY'S

Christ·mas /ˈkrɪsməs/ *n* [C;U] **1** also **Christmas Day** /ˌ·· ˈ·/— a Christian holy day held on December 25th (or in some churches January 6th) in honour of the birth of Christ, usu. kept as a public holiday: *Christmas dinner | a Christmas present* —see also BOXING DAY, CHRISTMAS CARD, CHRISTMAS TREE and see colour picture on page 1212 **2** the period just before and just after this: *to go ski-ing at Christmas | the Christmas holidays —see also* **the ghost of Christmas past** (GHOST[1] (6)), XMAS —see also extra information on page 215

Christmas bo·nus /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* an additional payment made at Christmas by the British state to all OLD AGE PENSIONERS (= women over 60 and men over 65 years of age)

Christmas box /ˈ·· ·/ *n* (in Britain, esp. formerly) a small

gift of money to the postman, milkman, etc., to thank them for their services during the year. Very few people still give such a gift.

Christmas cake /ˈ·· ·/ *n* [C;U] *BrE* (a) heavy cake containing a lot of dried fruit and usu. having a covering of ICING (=hard sugar), made to be eaten at Christmas —compare CHRISTMAS PUDDING and see picture on page 215

Christmas card /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a card with a picture on it that one person sends to another at Christmas with good wishes: *I'll put him on my Christmas card list.* —see colour picture on page 1212

Christmas car·ol /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* see CAROL[1]

Christmas Carol, A a book by Charles Dickens in which the characters of Scrooge, Bob Cratchit, and Tiny Tim appear

Christmas cook·ie /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n AmE* a special biscuit eaten in the US at Christmas

Christmas crack·er /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* a CRACKER (3)

Christmas Day /ˌ·· ˈ·/ see CHRISTMAS (1)

Christmas din·ner /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* a meal eaten on or before Christmas Day with family or friends, typically consisting mainly of TURKEY with various different vegetables and SAUCES, followed by CHRISTMAS PUDDING

Christmas Eve /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] the day, and esp. the evening, before Christmas. Christmas Eve is not a public holiday in Britain or the US: *I always go to my parents' house on Christmas Eve.* —see also extra information on page 0000

Christmas pres·ent /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a present given at Christmas —see colour picture on page 1212

Christmas pud·ding /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [C;U] (in Britain) (a) heavy sweet PUDDING containing a lot of dried fruit and often covered with burning BRANDY (=a strong alcohol), served hot esp. at the end of dinner on Christmas Day —compare CHRISTMAS CAKE

Christmas stock·ing /ˌ·· ˈ··/ also **stocking**– *n* a long sock hung by a fireplace or bed on Christmas Eve, into which small Christmas presents are put for children. A TANGERINE and/or a nut are often put into the stocking. Small children are told that the presents are brought by Santa Claus (or Father Christmas *BrE*), who has climbed down the chimney during the night. —see also extra information on page 215 and colour picture on page 1212

Christ·mas·time /ˈkrɪsməstaɪm/ *n* [U] *AmE* the season when people prepare for and celebrate Christmas, from mid-December to the end of the year: *I hope to see all of my relatives at Christmastime.*

Christmas tree /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a PINE tree, either real or artificial, bought during the Christmas season and decorated with TINSEL, BAUBLES, FAIRY LIGHTS, etc. It usu. has a star, a fairy, or an angel on the top. A family's Christmas presents are often piled around the bottom of the tree. —see colour picture on page 1212

Chris·to /ˈkrɪstəʊ/ the name used by the American artist **Christo Jaracheff** (1935–) known for his large-scale, temporary pieces of work which change the appearance of natural or man-made objects; for example, he once wrapped a tall building in plastic

Christopher see SAINT CHRISTOPHER

Chris·to·pher /ˈkrɪstəfəʳ/, **Warren F.** (1925-) an American politician who became Secretary of State under President Clinton in 1993

Chris·to·pher Rob·in /ˌ··· ˈ··/ a small boy who is a friend of Pooh Bear in stories and poems by A A Milne

Christ's Hos·pi·tal /ˌ· ˈ···/ a school in S England where the pupils wear long dark blue coats and yellow STOCKINGS (=long socks) and which was originally built as a hospital for children with no parents

chro·mat·ic /krəʊˈmætɪk, krə-/ *adj* **1** of colours; coloured **2** of the musical SCALE[1] (5) (**chromatic scale** /·ˌ·· ˈ·/) which consists of SEMITONES

chrome /krəʊm/ *n* [U] a hard ALLOY (=combination of metals) of chromium with other metals, esp. used for covering objects with a thin shiny protective metal plate: *The trimmings on the car are made of chrome.*

chrome yel·low /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [U] a bright yellow

chro·mi·um /ˈkrəʊmiəm/ *n* [U] a blue-white metal that is a simple substance (ELEMENT) found only in combination with other chemicals, used for covering objects with a thin shiny protective plate: *chromium-plated*

chro·mo·some /ˈkrəʊməsəʊm/ *n tech* a threadlike object found in all living cells, which passes on and controls the nature, character, etc., of a young plant, animal, or cell —see also X CHROMOSOME, Y CHROMOSOME

chron- see WORD FORMATION on page 0000

chron·ic /ˈkrɒnɪk‖ˈkrɑː-/ *adj* **1** (of a disease) continual; lasting a long time: *chronic hepatitis* | (fig.) *chronic unemployment* —compare ACUTE (4) **2** [A] suffering from a disease over a long period: *a chronic alcoholic|invalid* | *chronic depression* | (fig.) *a chronic complainer* **3** *BrE sl* very bad; terrible: *The food was absolutely chronic!* —**~ally** /kli/ *adv* : *chronically ill*

chronic fa·tigue syn·drome /ˌ·· ·ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* see M.E.

chron·i·cle[1] /ˈkrɒnɪkəl‖ˈkrɑː-/ *n* [(**of**)] a record of historical events, arranged in order of time: *The Daily Chronicle* (=title of a newspaper) | (fig.) *Every time I visit my grandmother she gives me a chronicle of her complaints.*

chronicle[2] *v* [T] to make a chronicle of (events): *to chronicle the growth of a town* —**-cler** *n*

chron·o·graph /ˈkrɒnəgrɑːf‖ˈkrɑːnəgræf/ *n tech* an instrument for measuring and recording periods of time

chron·o·log·i·cal /ˌkrɒnəˈlɒdʒɪkəl◂‖ˌkrɑːnəˈlɑː-/ *adj* arranged according to the order of time: *We'll talk about the causes of the war in chronological order.* —**~ly** /kli/ *adv*

chro·nol·o·gy /krəˈnɒlədʒi‖-ˈnɑː-/ *n* **1** [U] the science which measures time and gives dates to events **2** [C] a list or table arranged according to the order of time: *a chronology of the events of last year*

chro·nom·e·ter /krəˈnɒmɨtəʳ‖-ˈnɑː-/ *n tech* a very exact clock for measuring time, esp. as used for scientific purposes

chrys·a·lis /ˈkrɪsəlɨs/ *n* **chrysalises** /-sɪz/ the PUPA (=an insect in its inactive stage) of a MOTH or BUTTERFLY in its hard outer shell —compare COCOON[1]

chry·san·the·mum /krɪˈsænθɨməm/ *n* ‖ also **mum** *AmE infml* – a garden plant with large brightly coloured bushy flowers —see picture at FLOWER

Chrys·ler /ˈkraɪzləʳ/ also **the Chrysler Corporation** *fml tdmk* one of the three largest American car makers. Their cars are usually more expensive than average American cars, and they are considered to be of better than average quality: *He drives a Chrysler Le Baron.* | *My last three cars have been Chryslers.*

Chubb /tʃʌb/ *tdmk* (in Britain) a safety lock on a door

chub·by /ˈtʃʌbi/ *adj* (esp. of children and young adults) pleasantly fat: *chubby cheeks* —see FAT (USAGE) —**-biness** *n* [U]

chuck[1] /tʃʌk/ *v* [T] **1** *infml* to throw (something), esp. with a short movement of the arms: [+*obj(i)*+*obj(d)*] *Chuck me the ball.* [+*obj*+*adv|prep*] *Chuck the ball to me.* | *I chucked the empty packet away|chucked it in the bin.* | (fig.) *Don't make so much noise, or the driver will chuck us off (the bus).* **2** [(IN)] *sl* to stop or give up; leave: *He got fed up with his job and chucked it (in).* **3 chuck someone under the chin** to touch someone gently or playfully under the chin

chuck sbdy./sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] *infml* **1** [(**of**)] to force (a person) to leave: *The owner threatened to chuck us out (of the restaurant) if we didn't stop singing.* **2** to throw away (something useless or unwanted); get rid of; DISCARD: *I'm going to chuck out these old shoes.* —**chucker-out** /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n*

chuck[2] *n* **1** a gentle or loving stroke under the chin **2 give someone the chuck/get the chuck** *BrE infml* to dismiss someone/be dismissed from a job or relationship

chuck[3] *n* **1** [U] meat, esp. BEEF, from the side of an animal just above the top of the front legs: *chuck steak* **2** [C] an apparatus for holding a tool, etc., in a machine

chuck·le /ˈtʃʌkəl/ *v* [I] to laugh quietly: *I could hear him chuckling to himself as he read his book.* —see LAUGH[1] (USAGE) —**chuckle** *n* : *He gave a chuckle.*

chuck wag·on /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n AmE* a truck which carries and provides food for a group of people

chuffed /tʃʌft/ *adj* [F] *BrE infml* pleased or happy: *She's very chuffed about her new job.*

chug /tʃʌg/ *v* **-gg-** **1** [I+*adv|prep*] (of an engine or vehicle) to make, or move while making, a low repeated knocking



The nativity

Christmas is the main public holiday in Britain and the US when people spend time with their families, eat special food, and drink a lot. Christmas is a Christian festival to remember the birth of Jesus, and people often regret that it is now very 'commercial' and seen as a time of merry-making and present-giving.

Before Christmas Day

Because people give each other presents, in the days and weeks before Christmas the shops become very busy. Newspapers and television, etc. say how many shopping days there are left and people often spend a lot of money. Many people enjoy this but others feel that Christmas has become too much of a business and so has lost its meaning.

People also buy and send CHRISTMAS CARDS to their friends, usually containing the message 'Merry Christmas'. The cards often show pictures of the NATIVITY (=the birth of Christ), SANTA CLAUS, CHRISTMAS TREES, ROBINS or scenes of old-fashioned Christmases.

robin



CAROLS (=special religious songs) are sung, especially in churches. Some carols, e.g. *O Come all Ye Faithful* and *Silent Night*, are very well known. People sometimes go CAROL SINGING (CAROLing *AmE*), which means singing carols in the street, outside people's houses.

People usually decorate their houses and many people have a Christmas tree in their house which they also decorate.

Young children are told that Santa Claus will bring them presents if they are good. Children sometimes write a letter to Santa Claus telling him what presents they would like for Christmas. They hang up a STOCKING (really a sock) on Christmas Eve and Santa Claus is supposed to come down the chimney in the night and fill it with presents.

December 24th, the day before Christmas Day, is called CHRISTMAS EVE. Some people go to a special church service called MIDNIGHT MASS (in *BrE*, Christmas Eve service in *AmE*) at 12 o'clock at night. Others may have a drink with their friends.

Christmas Day

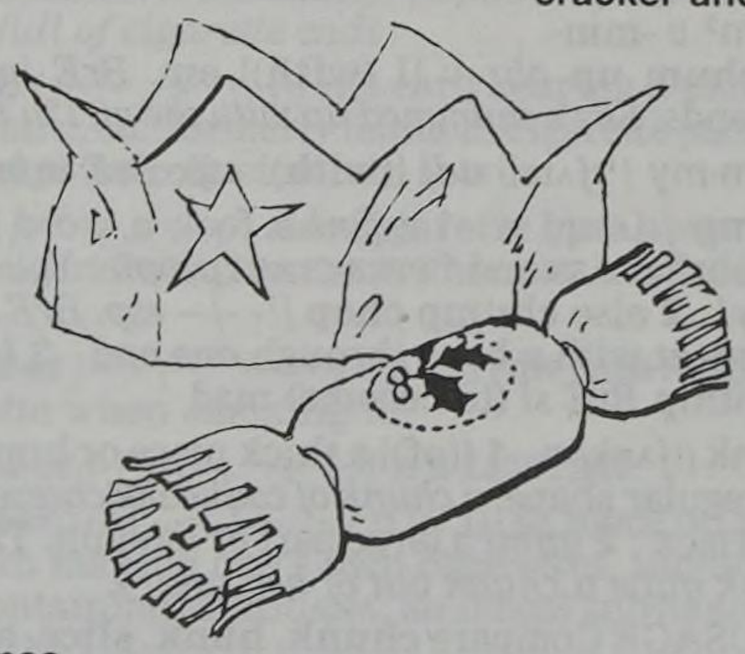
Christmas Day is a public holiday. Families usually spend the day opening their presents and eating and drinking together. The most important meal is Christmas dinner. The typical meal consists of TURKEY (=meat) with potatoes and other vegetables, e.g. CARROTS and SPROUTS. In Britain this is followed by CHRISTMAS PUDDING. Other TRADITIONAL foods in Britain include CHRISTMAS CAKE and MINCE PIES. Americans bake special biscuits called CHRISTMAS COOKIES which they eat over the Christmas season.

Christmas cake



At the start of the meal, British people often pull a CRACKER, which contains a small toy, a paper hat, and a joke.

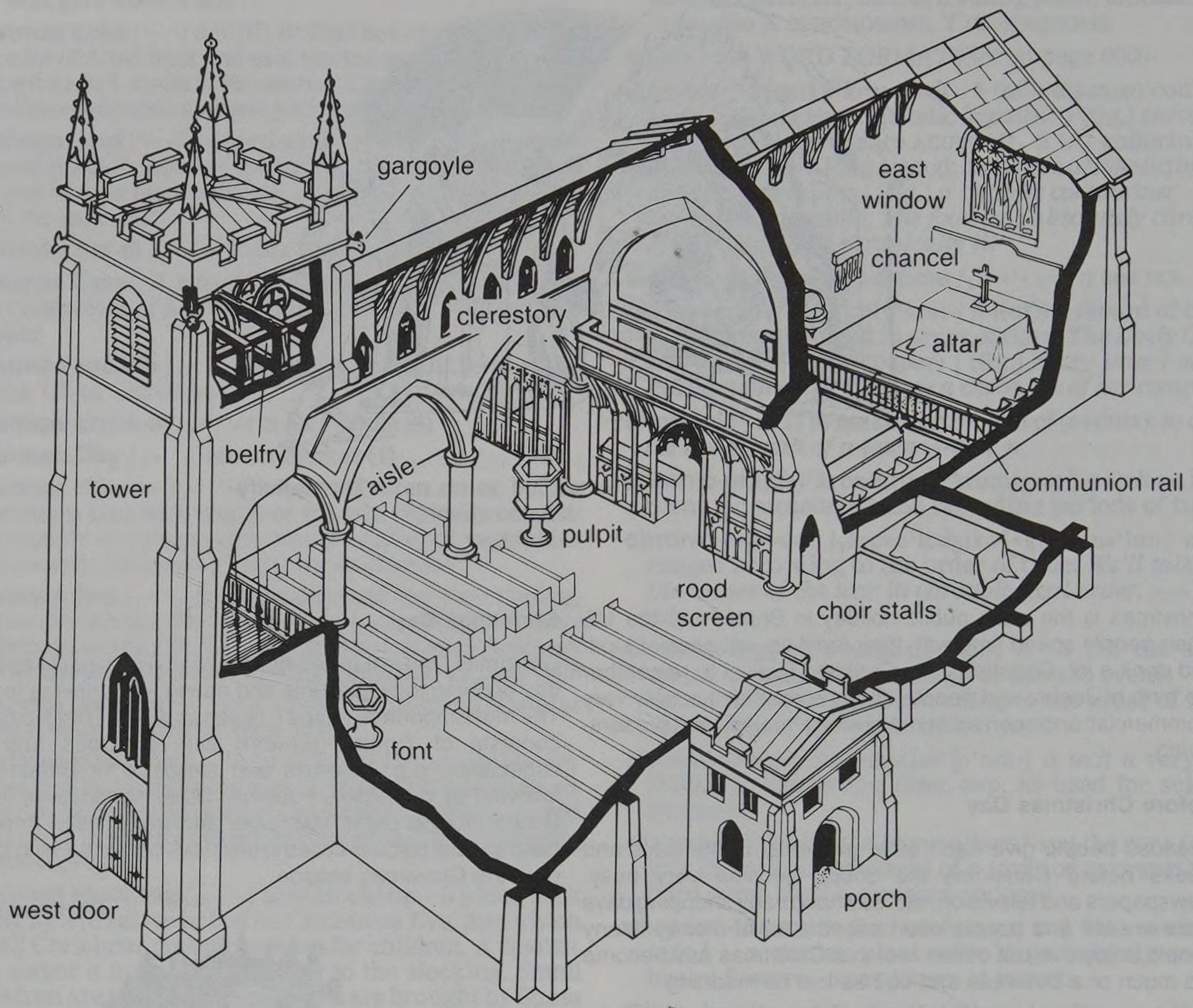
cracker and hat



After Christmas

In Britain, the day after Christmas day is called BOXING DAY and is also a public holiday. A lot of sport takes place on Boxing Day and many people now spend time watching sport on television. In the US many stores hold special sales, where things can be bought cheaply, on the day after Christmas.

Twelve days after Christmas (TWELFTH NIGHT) is the time when people are supposed to take down their decorations and remove their Christmas trees. — see also page 1212.



sound: *I heard the little car chugging along|away.* | *They watched the old steam engine chugging up the hill.* **2** [T] *AmE infml* to drink quickly: *He chugged his lemonade.* —**chug** *n* [S] : *the chug of the motorboat*

chuk·ker /ˈtʃʌkəʳ/ also **chuk·ka** /-kə/— *n* one of the periods of seven minutes each into which the game of POLO is divided

chum[1] /tʃʌm/ *n esp. BrE infml* a good friend, esp. among children; a word used esp. by MIDDLE-CLASS and UPPER-CLASS adults: *his school chums*

chum[2] *v* **-mm-**

chum up *phr v* [I (**with**)] *esp. BrE infml* to make friends: *She's chummed up with the girl in the next room.*

chum·my /ˈtʃʌmi/ *adj* [(**with**)] *esp. BrE infml* friendly

chump /tʃʌmp/ *n* **1** *infml* a fool; a word used esp. by MIDDLE-CLASS and UPPER-CLASS *people: You chump, Rodney!* **2** also **chump chop** /ˈ· ·/— *esp. BrE* a thick piece of meat with a bone through one end **3 (go) off one's chump** *BrE sl* (to become) mad

chunk /tʃʌŋk/ *n* **1** [(**of**)] a thick piece or lump with a usu. irregular shape: *a chunk of coal|cake|cheese* —see picture at PIECE **2** *infml* a large part or amount: *The car repairs took quite a chunk out of her salary.*

▷ USAGE Compare **chunk, hunk, slice,** and **lump.** All these words are used about pieces of something, but give different ideas of size, shape and material. A **chunk** is a large, usually uneven piece of a solid material that can be cut or divided: *a* **chunk** *of meat.* **Hunk** is similar in meaning but is used especially of food that can be broken or cut off: *a* **hunk** *of bread.* A **slice** is a thin, flat, cleanly-cut piece of something, especially food: *a* **slice** *of bread|sausage|cheese.* A **lump** is a mass of a solid material, of no regular size or shape, especially one which has not been shaped by human control: *a* **lump** *of rock.* (But *a* **lump** *of sugar* is usually regular in size and shape.) —see also the picture at PIECE◁

chunk·y /ˈtʃʌŋki/ *adj* **1** short, thick, and solid **2** *infml, sometimes apprec* (of a person, esp. a man) having a broad chest and strong-looking body, and not very tall **3** (of materials, clothes, etc.) thick and heavy: *a chunky woollen sweater* | *a chunky silver bracelet* **4** (of food) containing thick solid pieces: *chunky marmalade*

Chun·nel /ˈtʃʌnl/ *n* [*the*] a popular name for the CHANNEL TUNNEL

church[1] /tʃɜːtʃ‖tʃɜːrtʃ/ *n* **1** [C] a building for public Christian worship: *Our house is opposite the Baptist church.* | *the church spire* | *a Gothic church*

►CULTURAL NOTE Many churches are very beautiful old buildings, and many people like to visit them to admire them, even if they are not Christians. —see also CATHEDRAL◄

2 [U] the religious services held in a church: *They go to church every Sunday.* | *I saw them at church|after church.* | *a church service*

►CULTURAL NOTE In Britain, few people now go to church regularly, although more people go at the special religious times of Christmas and Easter. In the US, many people still go to church regularly.◄

3 [*the*+S] the profession of the CLERGY (=priests and people employed for religious reasons): *to enter|join the church* **4** [U] religious power as compared with state power: *the separation of church and state* **5** [C] (*usu. cap.*) the organization of Christian believers, or of any of the various branches of Christianity: *the Catholic Church* | *the Church of England* —see also CHAPEL, HIGH CHURCH, LOW CHURCH —compare MEETING HOUSE

church[2] *adj* [F] *BrE old-fash* (in England and Wales) belonging to the established state church: *My uncle's church, but none of the rest of us are.* —compare CHAPEL[2]

Church Ar·my /ˌ· ˈ··/ [*the*] a British organization of ordinary people under the authority of the CHURCH OF ENGLAND who help local officers of the church with their

work in society esp. with the less fortunate –compare SALVATION ARMY

Church Com·mis·sion·ers /ˌ· ·ˈ···/ [*the* + P] a group of people who control the buildings and money of the Church of England

church·go·er /ˈtʃɜːtʃˌgəʊəʳ‖-ɜːr-/ *n* a person who regularly attends public Christian worship in a church

Church House /ˌ· ˈ·/ a house in London which is the office of the GENERAL SYNOD (=council of religious officers) of the Church of England

Chur·chill /ˈtʃɜːtʃɪl‖ˈtʃɜːr-/, **Sir Win·ston** /ˈwɪnstən/ (1874–1965) an English politician who was the PRIME MINISTER of Britain during most of the Second World War. He made many famous speeches and is admired and remembered for his great leadership of the nation. He was Prime Minister again from 1951–55. He is often shown wearing a hat and smoking a large CIGAR. He made the V-SIGN (1), meaning victory –see also BATTLE OF BRITAIN, SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL and see picture on page 752 – **~ian** /tʃɜːˈtʃɪliən‖tʃɜːr-/ *adj* : *a stirring Churchillian speech*

Winston Churchill



church·man /ˈtʃɜːtʃmən‖ˈtʃɜːrtʃ-/ *n* **-men** /mən/ a priest; CLERGYMAN

church·key /ˈtʃɜːtʃkiː‖-ɜːr-/ *n AmE infml* BOTTLE OPENER

Church of Eng·land /ˌ· · ˈ··◂/ *n* **1** [*the*] the state church which is established by law in England, and was separated from the Roman Catholic Church in the 16th century. Its priests can marry, and its head is the King or Queen, though it is governed by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Archbishop of York **2** [U] also **C of E**– a member of the Church of England: *Are you Church of England?* –see also ANGLICAN, DISSOLUTION OF THE MONASTERIES, GENERAL SYNOD, HIGH CHURCH, LOW CHURCH

Church of Ire·land /ˌ· · ˈ··◂/ [*the*] an independent ANGLICAN church in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland

Church of Je·sus Christ of Lat·ter-Day Saints /ˌ· · ˌ·· ˌ· · ˌ·· · ˈ·/ [*the*] the MORMON church, based on the DIVINE REVELATIONS (=teachings directly from God) of Joseph Smith

Church of Scot·land /ˌ· · ˈ··◂/ *n* [*the*] the official established Presbyterian church in Scotland

church school /ˈ· ˌ·/ *n* in Britain a PRIMARY SCHOOL that is partly controlled by a church

church·war·den /ˌtʃɜːtʃˈwɔːdn‖ˈtʃɜːrtʃwɔːrdn/ *n* (in a Church of England church) either of two people who are not priests and are elected, by the people who attend a church, to be responsible for that church's property and money

church wed·ding /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* a wedding which takes place in a church, esp. a TRADITIONAL wedding –see also extra information on page 1406

church·yard /ˈtʃɜːtʃjɑːd‖ˈtʃɜːrtʃjɑːrd/ *n* a piece of ground around and belonging to a church, in which dead members of that church are buried. Not all churches have a churchyard, esp. in the US. –compare CEMETERY, GRAVEYARD

churl /tʃɜːl‖tʃɜːrl/ *n old use* **1** a rude person **2** a person of low social class

churl·ish /ˈtʃɜːlɪʃ‖-ɜːr-/ *adj* bad-tempered and rude: *a churlish reply | It would be churlish to refuse such a kind offer.* – **~ly** *adv* – **~ness** *n* [U]

churn[1] /tʃɜːn‖tʃɜːrn/ *n* **1** a container in which milk is shaken until it becomes butter **2** *BrE* a large metal container in which milk is stored or carried from the farm

churn[2] *v* **1** [T] to make (milk) into butter or make (butter) from milk using a churn **2** [I;T (UP)] to (cause to) move about violently: *The ship churned the water up as it passed.* | (fig.) *My stomach started to churn when I thought about my exams.*

churn sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] *infml, often derog* to produce in large amounts, by or as if by machinery: *She churns out three or four new books every year.*

chute /ʃuːt/ *n* **1** a narrow sloping passage along which something may be passed, dropped, or caused to slide: *a rubbish chute* **2** *infml* a PARACHUTE

chut·ney /ˈtʃʌtni/ *n* [U] a mixture of various fruits, hot-tasting seeds, and sugar, eaten with other dishes such as meat or cheese, and esp. with CURRY: *mango chutney*

chutz·pah /ˈhʊtspə/ *n* [U] *apprec sl, esp. AmE* disrespectful confidence; NERVE

CIA /ˌsiː aɪ ˈeɪ/ [*the*] the Central Intelligence Agency; the US government department that collects information about other countries, esp. in secret –compare FBI The CIA is sometimes accused of secretly influencing the affairs of other nations.

ciao /tʃaʊ/ *interj It* (used to say HELLO or goodbye)

ci·ca·da /sɪˈkɑːdə‖sɪˈkeɪdə, -ˈkɑː-/ *n* a tropical insect with large transparent wings that makes a high singing noise

cic·a·trice /ˈsɪkətrɪs/ also **cic·a·trix** /-trɪks/– *n* **cicatrices** /ˌsɪkəˈtraɪsiːz/ *lit or med* a SCAR

Ci·ce·ro /ˈsɪsərəʊ/, **Mar·cus Tul·li·us** /ˈmɑːkəs ˈtʌliəs‖ˈmɑːr-/ (106–43 BC) a Roman CONSUL who was a famous public speaker and writer

ci·ce·ro·ne /ˌsɪsəˈrəʊni, ˌtʃɪtʃə-/ *n lit* a guide who shows places of interest to tourists

CID /ˌsiː aɪ ˈdiː/ [*the*] the Criminal Investigation Department; the branch of the UK police force made up of DETECTIVES and brought in for special and serious cases. The CID used to be based at Scotland Yard near Whitehall and is now at New Scotland Yard in Westminster.

ci·der ‖also **cyder** *BrE* /ˈsaɪdəʳ/ *n* [C;U] **1** *BrE* (a glass of) an alcoholic drink made from apples. A lot of cider, esp. strong cider, is made in the West Country: *Two glasses of cider and a beer, please.* –see also SCRUMPY **2** *AmE* a fresh, non-alcoholic drink made from apples –see also HARD CIDER

Cider with Ro·sie /ˌsaɪdə wɪð ˈrəʊzi‖-dər-/ a book by Laurie Lee which tells the story of a young boy growing up in the country

Cid, The see EL CID

ci·gar /sɪˈgɑːʳ/ *n* a tube-shaped roll of uncut tobacco leaves for smoking, usu. larger and more expensive than a cigarette. Cigars are connected in people's minds with certain famous, and often rich, men, for example Winston Churchill and Groucho Marx. –see also **close, but no cigar** (CLOSE[3])

cig·a·rette ‖also **-ret** *AmE rare* /ˌsɪgəˈret‖ˌsɪgəˈret, ˈsɪgəret/ also **fag** *BrE infml*– *n* a thin paper tube of finely cut tobacco for smoking: *She lit her cigarette and then stubbed it out almost immediately. | a packet of cigarettes | an ashtray full of cigarette ends*

cigarette card /ˌ··ˈ· ˌ·, ˈ··· ˌ·/ *n* a card bearing a picture of e.g. a car, bird, etc. formerly found in cigarette packets and intended to be collected into sets

cigarette end /··ˈ· ˌ·, ˈ··· ˌ·/ also **cigarette butt** *n esp. BrE* the part of a cigarette that remains when one has finished smoking it

cigarette hold·er /··ˈ· ˌ··, ˈ··· ˌ··/ *n* a narrow tube for holding a cigarette when smoking it

cigarette light·er /··ˈ· ˌ··, ˈ··· ˌ··/ *n* a LIGHTER[1]

cigarette pa·per /··ˈ· ˌ··, ˈ··· ˌ··/ *n* [C;U] (a piece of) thin paper used in making one's own cigarettes, including cigarettes containing MARIJUANA, an illegal substance in Britain and the US

cig·gy /ˈsɪgi/ *n BrE infml* a cigarette: *Want a ciggy?*

ci·lan·tro /sɪˈlɑːntrəʊ, -ˈlæn-/ *n* [U] *AmE for* CORIANDER

Cil·la /ˈsɪlə/ *infml for* Cilla BLACK

C-in-C /ˌsiː ɪn ˈsiː/ *n* COMMANDER IN CHIEF

cinch /sɪntʃ/ *n* [S] *infml* **1** something done easily: *The exam was a cinch.* **2** something certain to happen: *It's an absolute cinch that this horse will win the race.*

Cin·cin·nat·i /ˌsɪnsᵊˈnæti◂/ a city in SW Ohio, on the Ohio river, with large manufacturing interests –see colour map on pages 1374-5

cinc·ture /ˈsɪŋktʃəʳ/ *n lit* a belt

cin·der /ˈsɪndəʳ/ *n* a very small piece of burnt or partly burnt wood, coal, etc.: *Clear out yesterday's cinders before you make the fire.* | *The cake was* **burnt to a cinder.** (=burnt black)

cinder block /ˈ·· ·/ *n* [C;U] *AmE for* BREEZE BLOCK

Cin·de·rel·la /ˌsɪndəˈrelə/ **1** also **Cinders** /ˈsɪndəz ‖ -derz/ *infml–* a young woman in an old FAIRY STORY who is treated like a slave by her STEPMOTHER and two ugly sisters. One day, a prince (Prince Charming) invites all the ladies in the country to a BALL (=a grand dance), but Cinderella cannot go as she has no dress. That night, her FAIRY GODMOTHER (=special magic friend) appears and says "You *shall* go to the ball!" She waves her magic WAND (=magic stick) and changes six white mice into horses, a PUMPKIN (=a large round yellow vegetable) into a COACH, and produces a beautiful dress and glass SLIPPERS (=shoes). Cinderella goes to the ball with a warning to be home by midnight, as at midnight the magic will disappear and everything will change back. At the ball, Prince Charming falls in love with Cinderella and dances with her all the time, but hearing the clock strike midnight, she runs away, leaving one of the glass slippers. The prince searches everywhere for the girl whose foot fits the glass slipper and finally finds Cinderella and marries her. The story of Cinderella is one of the most popular subjects for British PANTOMIMES: *A young student became a modern-day Cinderella yesterday when she married Japan's Prince Aya in an ancient ceremony.* (Daily Mail, 5.7.90) – see colour picture on page 357 **2** someone or something that receives little attention or respect, and perhaps deserves to receive more: *The care of old people seems to be the Cinderella of the social services.* | *Cambridgeshire is the Cinderella of the church world – with many beautiful buildings not on the tourist map like neighbours in Norfolk and Suffolk.*

cinder track /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a race track covered with fine CINDERS (= small piece of burnt wood, coal, etc.)

cine- see WORD FORMATION

cin·e·ma /ˈsɪnɨmə/ *n* **1** [C] *BrE* ‖ **movie theater** *AmE–* a theatre in which films are shown: *There is only one cinema in our town.* | *a new eight-screen cinema complex* **2** [the+S] also **pictures** *BrE infml* ‖ **movies** *esp. AmE–* a showing of a film: *Let's go to the cinema tonight.* **3** [*the*+S] *esp. BrE* ‖ **movies** *esp. AmE–* the art or industry of making films: *He's worked in the cinema all his life.* | *a leading figure in the Italian cinema* –see also BRITISH BOARD OF FILM CENSORS

cin·e·ma·to·gra·phy /ˌsɪnɨməˈtɒgrəfi‖-ˈtɑː-/ *n* [U] *tech* the art or science of making films **–-pher** *n*

cin·na·mon[1] /ˈsɪnəmən/ *n* [U] the sweet-smelling BARK (=outer covering) of a tropical Asian tree, used for giving a special taste to food: *a cinnamon stick* (=a stick-shaped rolled-up piece of this bark)

cinnamon[2] *adj* having a light yellowish-brown colour – **cinnamon** *n* [U]

Cin-za-no /tʃɪnˈzoːnəʊ/ *n tdmk* a type of sweet Italian VERMOUTH, usu. drunk with a MIXER (2)

ci·pher[1] **, cypher** /ˈsaɪfəʳ/ *n* **1** (a system of) secret writing; CODE: *a message written in cipher* **2** a person of no importance or influence: *He's a mere cipher in the company.* **3** *lit* the number 0; zero **4** *rare* a MONOGRAM

cipher[2] *v* [T] to put a message into cipher –compare DECIPHER

cir·ca /ˈsɜːkə‖ˈsɜːr-/ (*written abbrev.* **c** or **ca**) *prep fml* (used esp. with dates) in about: *He was born circa 1060 and died in 1118.*

cir·ca·di·an /sɜːˈkeɪdiən‖sɜːr-/ *adj* [A] *tech* (esp. of changes in the body) related to a period of about 24 hours: *studying the* **circadian rhythms** *of unborn babies* | *Flying from San Francisco to Rome has upset his* **circadian clock,** *so he feels as if it was the middle of the night.*

Cir·ce /ˈsɜːsi‖ˈsɜːr-/ in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, a woman who did magic and who changed people into pigs, including the friends of Odysseus

cir·cle[1] /ˈsɜːkəl‖ˈsɜːr-/ *n* **1** (a flat round area enclosed by) a curved line on which every point is equally distant from one fixed point inside the curve **2** something having the general shape of this curve; a ring: *a circle of trees|of chairs* | *children standing in a circle* **3** [+*sing.*/*pl. v*] also **circles** *pl.*– a group of people connected in an informal way by common interests: *She has a large circle of friends.* | *In political circles there is talk of war.* | *She moves in different circles* (=has different groups of friends) *from me.* **4** an upper floor in a theatre, usu. with seats set in curved rows: *Are we going to sit in the circle or in the stalls?* –see also DRESS CIRCLE, and see picture at THEATRE **5** a process or chain of events which finishes where it began; CYCLE: *The circle of the seasons has brought us again to spring.* | *We seem to be arguing in a circle|to be going round in circles.* **6 come full circle** to go through several changes or developments and end up back at the starting point: *After several years of working in a band, he has now gone back to being a solo musician, so his career has come full circle.* **7 square the circle** to attempt something impossible –see also CORN CIRCLE, GREAT CIRCLE, ROUNDABOUT, VICIOUS CIRCLE

circle[2] *v* **1** [T] to draw or form a circle around: *The teacher circled the pupils' spelling mistakes in red ink.* **2** [I;T] to move or travel in a circle (around): *The plane circled (around) the airport before landing.* | *a spacecraft circling the Earth* | *The vultures were circling overhead.*

cir·clet /ˈsɜːklɨt‖ˈsɜːr-/ *n* a narrow round band of gold, silver, jewels, etc., worn on the head, arms, or neck as decoration, esp. formerly

cir·cuit /ˈsɜːkɨt‖ˈsɜːr-/ *n* **1** (movement along) a curving path that forms a complete circle round an area: *We made|did the circuit of the old city walls.* | *She ran three circuits of the track.* | *the circuit of the Earth round the sun* **2** (the places on) a regularly repeated journey from place to place made by a person or group for usu. professional purposes: *The judge is* **on circuit** *for most of the year.* (=visits different courts) | *He retired this year after over ten years on the tennis circuit.* (=places visited by professional players for important games) | *a well-known entertainer on the night club circuit.* –see also CIRCUIT COURT **3** the complete circular path of an electric current: *A break in the circuit had caused the lights to go out.* | *a circuit diagram* –see also CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION, PRINTED CIRCUIT, SHORT CIRCUIT **4** a group of establishments offering the same films, plays, etc.

circuit break·er /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n tech* a SWITCH or other apparatus which interrupts an electric current if this becomes necessary, e.g. for safety reasons

circuit court /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* a court that is held regularly at several places outside the country's main city, only at particular times of the year, when a judge visits it

cir·cu·i·tous /sɜːˈkjuːɨtəs‖sɜːr-/ *adj fml* going a long way round instead of in a straight line; not direct: *the river's circuitous course* | *a circuitous route* **– ~ly** *adv*

cir·cu·lar[1] /ˈsɜːkjʊləʳ‖ˈsɜːr-/ *adj* **1** round and usu. flat; shaped like a circle: *a circular table* **2** forming or moving in a circle: *a circular bus route* | (fig.) *a circular argument that doesn't lead anywhere*

circular[2] *n* a printed advertisement, paper, or notice given or sent to a large number of people for them to read: *There were only bills and circulars in the post this morning.*

cir·cu·lar·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /ˈsɜːkjʊləraɪz‖ˈsɜːr-/ *v* [T] to send circulars to (a group of people)

circular saw /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* a SAW[2] which cuts with sharp teeth on a round metal blade and is driven by a motor – compare CHAIN SAW

cir·cu·late /ˈsɜːkjʊleɪt‖ˈsɜːr-/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) move or flow around in a closed system, always remaining within that system: *Blood circulates through the body.* | *Money circulates in the economy.* **2** [I;T] to (cause to) spread widely; DISSEMINATE: *The news of the enemy's defeat quickly circulated round the town.* | *A lot of false information has been circulated.* | *Rumours of a military coup began to circulate.* **3** [I] to move from person to person, esp. at a social gathering; MINGLE: *He circulated at the party, talking to lots of people.* **–-latory** /ˌsɜːkjʊˈleɪtəri, ˈsɜːkjʊlətəri‖ˈsɜːrkjʊləˌtɔːri/ *adj*

circulating cap·i·tal /ˈ··· ˌ···/ *n* [U] see FLOATING CAPITAL

cir·cu·la·tion /ˌsɜːkjʊˈleɪʃən‖ˌsɜːr-/ *n* **1** [C;U] the flow of gas or liquid around a closed system, esp. the movement of blood through the body: *Bad circulation makes you feel cold.* **2** [U] the movement of something, such as news or money, from place to place or from person to person: *the circulation of rumours* | *The government has reduced the number of £5 notes* **in circulation.** | *These ideas have*

been in circulation for some time. | *She's* **out of circulation** (=not taking part in social life) *at the moment because she's working for her exams.* **3** [S] the average number of copies of a newspaper, magazine, etc., that are regularly sold: *This magazine has a large circulation|a circulation of 400,000.* | *Our circulation will fall if we increase the price to 45p.* | *a mass-circulation newspaper* (=read by a large number of people)

circum- see WORD FORMATION

cir·cum·cise /ˈsɜːkəmsaɪz‖ˈsɜːr-/ *v* [T] **1** to cut off the skin at the end of the sex organ (=the FORESKIN) of (a male) **2** to cut off the CLITORIS of (a female)

cir·cum·ci·sion /ˌsɜːkəmˈsɪʒən‖ˌsɜːr-/ *n* [C;U] the act of circumcising, esp. of a boy baby, esp. as part of a Jewish or Muslim religious ceremony, or because it is believed to be wise for health reasons

cir·cum·fer·ence /səˈkʌmfərəns‖sər-/ *n* **1** [C;U] the length round the outside of a circle; distance round a round object: *the circumference of a wheel|of the Earth* | *It is 3 metres in circumference.* **2** [(*the*) S (**of**)] the line round the outside edge of a figure, object, or place of any shape; PERIPHERY —**-ential** /səˌkʌmfəˈrenʃəl‖sər-/ *adj*

cir·cum·flex /ˈsɜːkəmfleks‖ˈsɜːr-/ *adj* [A] (of an ACCENT[1] (3)) put above a letter to show pronunciation) being the mark over ê —compare ACUTE (6), GRAVE[3]

cir·cum·lo·cu·tion /ˌsɜːkəmləˈkjuːʃən‖ˌsɜːr-/ *n* [C;U] *fml* (an example of) the use of an unnecessarily large number of words to express an idea, esp. when trying to avoid answering a difficult question directly —**-tory** /-ˈlɒkjətəri, -ləˈkjuːtəri‖-ˈlɑːkjətɔːri/ *adj*

cir·cum·nav·i·gate /ˌsɜːkəmˈnævɪgeɪt‖ˌsɜːr-/ *v* [T] *fml* to sail completely round (the Earth, an island, etc.) —**-gation** /ˌsɜːkəmnævɪˈgeɪʃən‖ˌsɜːr-/ [C;U]

cir·cum·scribe /ˈsɜːkəmskraɪb‖ˈsɜːr-/ *v* [T] **1** [*often pass.*] *fml* to keep within narrow limits; RESTRICT: *His activities have been severely circumscribed since his illness.* **2** *tech* to draw a line round: *to circumscribe a square by drawing a circle round it* —**-scription** /ˌsɜːkəmˈskrɪpʃən‖ˌsɜːr-/ *n* [U]

cir·cum·spect /ˈsɜːkəmspekt‖ˈsɜːr-/ *adj* (of a person or an action) acting or done after careful thought; CAUTIOUS: *I'm surprised he got married in such a hurry – he's usually pretty circumspect.* —**~ly** *adv* —**spection** /ˌsɜːkəmˈspekʃən‖ˌsɜːr-/ *n* [U]

cir·cum·stance /ˈsɜːkəmstæns, -stəns‖ˈsɜːr-/ *n* **1** [C *usu. pl.*] a fact, condition, or event concerned with and influencing another event, person, or course of action: *We can't judge what he did until we know all the circumstances.* | *This rule can only be waived in exceptional circumstances.* | *The level of the fine depends on the circumstances of the case.* | *They have been living* **in reduced circumstances** (=with very little money) *since she lost her job.* **2** [U] the combination of facts, conditions, or events that influence one's action, regarded as being outside one's control: *Force of circumstance compelled us to close the business.* | *a victim of circumstance* **3** [U] formal and usu. official ceremony: *the* **pomp and circumstance** *of a royal wedding* **4 in/under no circumstances** never; whatever happens: *Under no circumstances must you leave the house.* **5 in/under the circumstances** considering the situation at a particular time: *I wanted to leave but then my uncle died, so under the circumstances I decided to stay.* | *The result was the best that could be expected in the circumstances.*

cir·cum·stan·tial /ˌsɜːkəmˈstænʃəl◂‖ˌsɜːr-/ *adj* **1** (of information, esp. concerning a crime) based on or dealing with related circumstances, but not really proving anything; INCIDENTAL: *You can't convict him merely on* **circumstantial evidence.** **2** *fml* (of a description) containing all the details: *a circumstantial account of the visit* —**~ly** *adv*

cir·cum·vent /ˌsɜːkəmˈvent‖ˌsɜːr-/ *v* [T] to avoid or defeat (as if) by passing round, esp. as the result of cleverness: *The company opened an office abroad in order to circumvent the tax laws.* —**-vention** /ˈvenʃən/ *n* [U]

cir·cus /ˈsɜːkəs‖ˈsɜːr-/ *n* **1** (a performance by) a travelling group of people and animals who entertain the public with acts of skill and daring. Circuses are generally considered to be entertainment for children. They include performances by CLOWNS and wild animals such as lions, tigers, and elephants. The RINGMASTER introduces all the acts. A circus will usually stay in an area for a few days and then move on to another town. **2** the place, usu. covered with a tent, where this performance takes place, with seats round a ring in the middle **3** *BrE* a round open area where a number of streets join together: *Oxford Circus* **4** *derog* a noisy badly behaved meeting, etc. **5** (in ancient Rome) a space surrounded by seats for the public in which fights, races, etc., took place

cirque /sɜːk‖sɜːrk/ *n tech* a steep-sided bowl-shaped hollow on a mountain side, originally formed by ice —see picture at MOUNTAIN

cir·rho·sis /sɪˈrəʊsɪs/ *n* [U] *med* a very serious disease of the LIVER, which often leads to death. Cirrhosis of the liver is often caused by drinking too much alcohol.

cir·rus /ˈsɪrəs/ *n* [U] light feathery white cloud very high up —compare CUMULUS, NIMBUS (1)

CIS /ˌsiː aɪ ˈes/ [*the*] the Commonwealth of Independent States; the name taken by a group of states which formerly made up most of the USSR, the largest of which is Russia

cis·sy /ˈsɪsi/ *n, adj* SISSY

Cis·ter·cian[1] /sɪˈstɜːʃən‖-ɜːr-/ *n* a member of a religious group begun at Citeaux, France in 1098 in order to follow more closely Saint Benedict's rules, which include little sleep, hard work, and no meat

Cistercian[2] *adj* of the religious order of Cistercians: *a Cistercian chapel*

cis·tern /ˈsɪstən‖-ərn/ *n* a container with a pipe leading in and out, used for storing water, esp. for a TOILET

cit·a·del /ˈsɪtədəl, -del/ *n* **1** a strong heavily-armed fort, usu. in, near, or above a city, built to be a last place of safety and defence in time of war **2** *fml or lit* a place where something is kept safe or kept in existence; STRONGHOLD: *the last citadel of freedom*

ci·ta·tion /saɪˈteɪʃən/ *n* **1** [C (**for**)] an official statement concerning a person's qualities or actions, esp. bravery in battle **2** [C] a short passage taken from something written or spoken; QUOTATION **3** [U] the act of citing or being cited

cite /saɪt/ *v* [T] **1** to mention, esp. as an example in a statement, argument, etc.; QUOTE: *The minister cited the latest crime figures as proof of the need for more police.* **2** to call (someone) to appear before a court of law; give a SUMMONS to: *He was cited in a divorce case.* **3** [(**for**)] *fml* to mention as worthy of praise; COMMEND: *cited for bravery in an official report*

Cit·i·bank /ˈsɪtibæŋk/ the largest bank in the US, with branches in many countries and its main offices in New York City

cit·i·zen /ˈsɪtɪzən/ *n* **1** a person who lives in a particular city or town, esp. one who has voting or other rights there **2** a person who belongs to a particular country by birth or by being naturalized (NATURALIZE), who gives loyalty to it, and expects protection from it, whether or not he/she actually lives there: *She's a British citizen but lives in India.* | *She became a US citizen after living there for several years.* —compare ALIEN[2] (2), NATIONAL[2], SUBJECT[1] (5); see also CITIZENSHIP

Citizen Kane /ˌsɪtɪzən ˈkeɪn/ a film about a man who owned several important newspapers. It was directed by Orson Welles, who also acted in it.

cit·i·zen·ry /ˈsɪtɪzənri/ *n* [U+*sing./pl. v*] *old use* all the citizens in a place

Citizens Ad·vice Bu·reau /ˌ··· ·ˈ· ·ˌ·/ also **CAB**– *n* [*the*] (in Britain) a largely VOLUNTARY organization with branches in many towns and cities which gives free advice to members of the public who need help with legal, financial, and other problems. It gets its money from local government and from the Department of Trade and Industry.

citizen's ar·rest /ˌ··· ·ˈ·/ *n* an act by someone who is not a police officer of arresting (ARREST) a person who has done something illegal: *Peter clapped his hand on the man's shoulder and said "I am making a citizen's arrest".*

Cit·i·zens' Band /ˌ··· ˈ·◂/ *n* [U] see CB

Citizens' Char·ter /ˌ··· ˈ··/ [*the*] a statement by John Major's Conservative government of the standards of service which the public has a right to expect from

British government departments and organizations

cit·i·zen·ship /ˈsɪtɨzənʃɪp/ *n* [U] the rights of a citizen; state of being a citizen: *After eight years in the country he applied for citizenship.* | *Canadian citizenship*

cit·ric ac·id /ˌsɪtrɪk ˈæsɨd/ *n* [U] a weak acid obtained from the juice of some fruits, esp. LEMON and LIME[4] juice

Cit·ro·ën /ˈsɪtrəʊən, ˈsɪtrən‖ ˌsɪtrəʊˈen/ *tdmk* a French company that makes cars. Citroën cars are well-known for clever and modern DESIGN —see also DEUX-CHEVAUX

2CV



cit·ron /ˈsɪtrən/ *n* **1** [C] a pale yellow thick-skinned fruit like a LEMON **2** [U] the preserved skin of this fruit, used for giving a special taste to cakes

cit·ro·nel·la /ˌsɪtrəˈnelə/ *n* [U] a plant similar to grass which is used to produce **citronella oil**, which smells of LEMONS and is used to keep insects away

cit·rus[1] /ˈsɪtrəs/ also **citrus tree** /ˈ·· ·/— *n* any of several types of prickly trees of the orange family grown in warm countries for their juicy fruit

citrus[2] **, citrous** *adj* [A] of citrus trees and their fruit: *citrus fruits such as oranges, lemons, and limes*

cit·y /ˈsɪti/ *n* **1** a large group of houses and other buildings where people live and work, usu. having a centre of entertainment and business activity. It is usu. larger and more important than a town, and in Britain it usu. has a CATHEDRAL: *an office in the city centre* | *the city of St Albans* | *Paris is the capital city of France.* —compare TOWN, VILLAGE **2** [+*sing./pl. v*] all the people who live in a city: *a city living in fear* —see also GARDEN CITY, INNER CITY

City also **City of Lon·don** /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ *fml*— [*the*] *BrE* an area in central London which is the British centre for money matters. It measures one square mile (2.5 square kilometres). The Bank of England and the Stock Exchange are here, as well as many financial companies. Few people live in the City, but many travel there each day to work: *There are rumours in the City that the company is about to be taken over.* | *a firm of City stockbrokers* —compare WALL STREET; see also CITY GENT and see colour map on page 817

city desk /ˈ·· ·/ *n AmE* a department within a newspaper which deals with local news (=news of the city in which the newspaper is produced) rather than national or international news: *Lou Grant ran the city desk for the Herald.*

city-dwel·ler /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a person who lives in a city

city fa·ther /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] *pomp, esp. AmE* a member of the governing body of a city

city gent

city gent /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n BrE* a man who wears a dark or pinstripe suit to his job in the business or government institutions of central London. When people think of city gents they have in their minds a picture of a man wearing a BOWLER HAT and carrying a black UMBRELLA, even though few people look like this today.



city hall /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [C;U] *esp. AmE* (a public building used for) a city's local government —compare TOWN HALL

City of Da·vid /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ [*the*] *Bibl* Jerusalem

city slick·er /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n sometimes derog* a person who lives and works in a city and has no experience of (the hardships of) country life: *city slickers hitting the holiday trail to a working ranch*

city-state /ˌ·· ˈ·‖ˈ·· ·, ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* (esp. in former times) a city which, with the surrounding country area, forms an independent state: *Athens was one of the city-states of ancient Greece.* —compare NATION STATE

City Tech·nol·o·gy Col·lege /ˌ·· ·ˈ··· ˌ··/ also **CTC** *infml*— *n* a college in Britain for young people over 16 which specializes in technical education. Its money comes partly from the government and partly from industrial companies.

civ·et /ˈsɪvɨt/ *n* **1** [C] also **civet cat** /ˈ·· ˌ·/ a small catlike animal of Asia and Africa **2** [U] a strong-smelling liquid obtained from a civet and used in making PERFUME

civ·ic /ˈsɪvɪk/ *adj* [A] of a city or its citizens: *The president's visit was the most important civic event of the year.* | *civic duties|pride*

civic cen·tre /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* an area in a town where there is a planned group of public buildings, e.g. local government offices, theatres, etc.

civic du·ty /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* any of the things which a citizen is expected to do, e.g. helping a police officer who asks for help

civic-mind·ed /ˌ·· ˈ··◂/ *adj AmE* favouring or supporting the interests of the COMMUNITY: *No civic-minded person would leave a wreck like that in their front yard.*

civ·ics /ˈsɪvɪks/ *n* [U] a social science dealing with the rights and duties of citizens, the way government works, etc.

civ·ies /ˈsɪviz/ *n* [P] CIVVIES

civ·il /ˈsɪvəl/ *adj* **1** [A *no comp.*] of, belonging to, or consisting of the ordinary population of citizens; not military or religious: *We were married in a civil ceremony, not in church.* | *civil strife|unrest|disorder* (=fighting between citizens) | *civil aviation* (=aircraft for ordinary citizens, rather than military aircraft) —compare CIVILIAN **2** [A *no comp.*] belonging to, or judged under, CIVIL LAW: *It was a civil case so he was not sent to prison.* | *a civil offence* —compare CRIMINAL[1] (1,2) **3** polite enough to be acceptable, though without being friendly; COURTEOUS: *Try to be civil to her, even if you don't like her.* | **Keep a civil tongue in your head!** (=Stop speaking rudely!) | *That's very civil of you.* (=That's very kind of you.) —see also CIVILLY

civil a·vi·a·tion /ˌ·· ··ˈ··/ *n* [U] the operation of aircraft for anything except military purposes: *Civil aviation has been suspended within 100 miles of the war zone.*

Civil Aviation Au·thor·i·ty /ˌ·· ··ˈ·· ·ˌ···/ also **CAA**— [*the*] (in Britain) an independent organization which controls the operation of AIRLINES, esp. with regard to safety

civil de·fence /ˌ·· ·ˈ·/ *n* [U] the protection of the ordinary population of a country against military attack by an enemy, esp. from the air

civil dis·o·be·di·ence /ˌ·· ··ˈ···/ *n* [U] refusal to obey laws that one thinks are unjust, esp. in a non-violent way that ones hopes will force the government to change its position. Henry David Thoreau wrote an ESSAY called *Civil Disobedience* in the mid-19th century from where many of the ideas about and reasons for this practice come. One of the most famous examples of civil disobedience was the action taken by Mahatma Gandhi in India in the early 1920s.

civil en·gi·neer·ing /ˌ·· ··ˈ··/ *n* [U] the planning, building, and repair of public works, such as roads, bridges, large public buildings, etc. —**civil engineer** *n*

ci·vil·ian /sɨˈvɪljən/ *n, adj* (a person) not of the armed forces: *a return to civilian government after years of military rule* | *civilian clothes* | *the shooting of innocent civilians* —compare CIVIL[1]

ci·vil·i·ty /sɨˈvɪlɨti/ *n* [C;U] (an act of) politeness and good manners: *He greeted us with civility.* | *We exchanged a few civilities.* (=polite remarks)

civ·i·li·za·tion also **-sation** *BrE* /ˌsɪvəl-aɪˈzeɪʃən‖-vəlɨ-ˈzeɪ-/ *n* **1** [U] (the people or countries that have reached) an advanced stage of human development marked by a high level of art, religion, science, and social and political organization: *the benefits of modern civilization* | *a danger that threatens the whole of civilization* —compare CULTURE **2** [C] a civilized society of a particular time or place: *the civilization of ancient China* **3** [U] *infml* life in a place which has all the comforts of the modern world: *When we get down this mountain and back to civilization, I want a hot bath!* **4** [U] the process of civilizing or of being civilized **5 the end of civilizaton as we know it** the end of the world. This phrase is used, not too seriously, esp. in films and books about situations in

which the Earth is in great danger: *Will these aliens invade? Could this mean the end of civilization as we know it?*

civ·i·lize ‖ also **-lise** *BrE* /ˈsɪvəl-aɪz/ *v* [T] **1** to bring from a lower stage of development to a highly developed stage of social organization: *The Romans hoped to civilize all the tribes of ancient Europe.* **2** to cause to improve in habits and manners: *the teacher's civilizing influence on her young pupils*

civ·i·lized ‖ also **-lised** *BrE* /ˈsɪvəl-aɪzd/ *adj* **1** [*no comp.*] having a highly developed social organization; in a state of civilization. *The dictator's terrible crimes will be condemned by all civilized nations.* **2** pleasant, charming, and without roughness of manner or style: *a very civilized person | We spent a rather civilized evening in a quiet little wine bar.*

civil law /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] **1** the body of law concerned with judging private quarrels between people and dealing with the rights of private citizens, rather than with criminal or military cases **2** also **Roman Law**– the body of law belonging to ancient Rome and the modern systems of law based upon it **3** the law of a particular state as opposed to other kinds of law, such as international law –compare CANON LAW, COMMON LAW, CRIMINAL LAW

civil lib·er·ty /ˌ·· ˈ···/ also **civil liberties** *pl.*– *n* [U] freedom of opinion, thought, speech, action, etc., so long as this does not harm other people –compare CIVIL RIGHTS

civil list /ˈ·· ·/ *n* [*the*+S] (in Britain) the sum of money voted yearly by Parliament to the King or Queen as head of state, and to certain other related people

civ·il·ly /ˈsɪvəl-i/ *adv* **1** politely; in a civil way: *If you can't behave civilly you'd better leave.* **2** in accordance with CIVIL LAW

civil mar·riage /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* (in law) a marriage performed by someone who is not a priest

civil par·ish /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* a PARISH (2)

civil rights /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [P] the non-political rights of freedom, equality, etc., which belong to a citizen without regard to race, religion, colour, sex, etc.: *Do blacks and whites have the same civil rights in your country? | equal civil rights for men and women* –compare CIVIL LIBERTY; see also BILL OF RIGHTS

Civil Rights Act of 1964 /ˌsɪvəl ˌraɪts ækt əv ˌnaɪntiːn sɪksti ˈfɔːr/ [*the*] an American law which says that businesses must treat people equally no matter what colour or religion they are or where they are from. This law also says that businesses such as restaurants or hotels cannot refuse to serve someone because of their colour, and that no business can refuse to hire someone for a job because of their colour. In the South, especially, many white people during the 1960s were very upset by this law and there were many times when it was broken. Many people in the US remember news reports and photographs of black people sitting down in restaurants that had once only served white people and that this caused much hate and often violence. Today feelings are not as strong but many black people still face PREJUDICE.

civil rights move·ment /ˌ·· ˈ· ˌ··/ [*the*] in the US, the attempt from 1954 onwards to get equal rights for black people, and people of any race or colour, through non-violent actions, was led esp. by Dr Martin Luther King, Jr. Several cases involving civil rights went to the US Supreme Court; the most important was BROWN v. BOARD OF EDUCATION OF TOPEKA. In 1964 a Civil Rights Act was passed making unequal treatment of races illegal, and in 1965, the government banned (BAN) the last tests and restrictions which some states had used to stop black people from voting; this gave all adults the right to vote, regardless of colour –see also CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964, JIM CROW, Martin Luther KING, SOUTH(1) (CULTURAL NOTE)

civil ser·vant /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* a person employed in the CIVIL SERVICE –see OFFICER (USAGE)

►CULTURAL NOTE In Britain, the STEREOTYPE of a civil servant is of someone who insists on doing everything in an official way and obeying a lot of small, unimportant rules. Civil servants are also thought of first as being rather boring men all dressed in similar grey suits, although of course there are many female civil servants.◄

civil ser·vice /ˌ·· ˈ··/ [*the*] (*often caps.*) **1** all the various departments of the British and US national governments except the armed forces, law courts, and religious organizations. In Britain, people enter the civil service by taking examinations in competition with other people. Civil servants are not allowed to take any active part in politics. They do not change when the government changes. In the US, most people enter through examinations, but some people receive civil service posts as a reward for political services, and so the holders of these posts change depending which party forms the government: *She works in the civil service.* **2** [+*sing./pl. v*] all the people who are employed in these departments: *The civil service get|gets longer holidays than we do.*

civil war /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a) war between opposing groups of people from the same country, fought within that country: *Civil war broke out after the President's death.| The country is now in a state of civil war.* **2** [*the*] also **American Civil War, the War Between the States** a war (1861–65) between the American North and South, which began when 11 southern states **rebelled** (=opposed and fought) against the US **Federal** government. These **rebel** states formed a separate government called the CONFEDERACY, and together tried to **secede** (=separate) from the UNION (=the US). The northern states (also 11 in number at that time), under the US government, formed the Union army and fought to keep the South.The war was caused mainly by the disagreement over **slavery** (=owning slaves). The South's economy depended on slavery and farming, while the North depended on industry and Northerners wanted an end to slavery. As new states in the West were joining the US, members of CONGRESS had argued over whether the new states should be allowed to have slavery, and whether the government should be allowed to forbid it. The disagreement over the balance of power between the **Federal** (=central) government and state governments was a bitter one. When President LINCOLN was elected, the southern states feared that he would **abolish** (=forbid) slavery altogether, so they **seceded from the Union**.The Confederacy's president was Jefferson DAVIS, and its army was was led by Robert E. LEE. The Union, or **Yankees**, under Lincoln, fought under the command of Ulysses S. GRANT. The South won many battles, and Lee was much admired for his military excellence, but the North had more soldiers and supplies. More than 600,000 soldiers died before the North won a victory which kept the Union (=North and South) together.During the war, Lincoln declared the slaves of the Confederacy to be free (see EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION). After the war, slavery was abolished altogether by the 13th **Amendment** (=change) of the CONSTITUTION. The period of rebuilding the country, esp. the South, that followed the war was called RECONSTRUCTION. **3** [*the*] also **the English Civil War** –a war (1642–51) resulting from a power struggle between King Charles I and the English parliament led by Oliver Cromwell, during which the King, Charles I, was defeated and executed (EXECUTE) –see also SPANISH CIVIL WAR

civ·vies , civies /ˈsɪviz/ *n* [P] *sl* the kind of clothes ordinary people wear, as opposed to a military uniform. This word is used mainly by people in the armed forces: *an army officer in civvies*

civ·vy street /ˈsɪvi striːt/ *n* [U] *sl, now rare* life outside the armed forces. This word is used mainly by people who are or have been in the armed forces.

clack /klæk/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) make one or more quick sharp sounds: *The typewriters clacked busily.* **2** [I] *infml* to talk quickly and continuously; CHATTER: *clacking tongues* (=people talking quickly and continuously) –**clack** *n* [S] : *the incessant clack of knitting needles*

Clack·man·nan·shire /klækˈmænənʃəʳ/ a former COUNTY in central Scotland, now part of Central REGION

Clac·ton /ˈklæktən/ also **Clacton-on-Sea** /ˌ·· · ˈ·/ *fml*– a coastal town in Essex, England

clad /klæd/ *adj* [(**in**)] *esp. lit* (*often in comb.*) covered or clothed: *She was clad all in silk and lace. | poorly-clad children | an armour-clad ship*

Clai·borne /ˈkleɪbɔːn‖-bɔːrn/, **Craig** /kreɪg/ (1920–) an American writer of cookbooks and newspaper articles on food

claim[1] /kleɪm/ *v* **1** [I (**on, for**);T] to ask for, take, or state that one should have (something to which one has a right): *Did you claim on the insurance after your car*

accident? | Old people are entitled to claim a special heating allowance from the government. | If no one claims the lost umbrella, the person who found it can keep it. | A small terrorist group has claimed responsibility for the bombing in London. | (fig.) *The flood claimed hundreds of lives.* **2** [T+*to-v*|(*that*); ~~*obj*~~] to declare to be true; state, esp. in the face of opposition; MAINTAIN: *They claim to have discovered|claim that they have discovered a cure for the disease, but this has not yet been proved.* **3** [T] to deserve or need: *This problem claims our undivided attention.*

claim[2] *n* **1** [C;U (**for, on**)] a demand or request for something which one has a right to have: *The management is considering the union's pay claim. | When her house was burgled, she made a claim on the insurance. | He* **put in a claim** *for his travelling expenses. | He* **laid claim to** *the throne.* (=said it was his by right) **2** [C;U (**to, on**)] a right to something: *He has a rightful claim to the property; it was his mother's. | You may be my sister, but that doesn't mean you have any claims on me. | The town's* **claim to fame** *is that it has the country's oldest church.* **3** [C] a statement that something is true or real, esp. one that other people may disagree with; ASSERTION: *The government say they have reduced personal taxation, but I would dispute this claim.* [+*to-v*] *I make no claim to understand all the complexities of the matter.* [+*that*] *I don't accept the claim that they have reduced taxes.* **4** [C] something claimed, esp. an area of land or a sum of money —see also **jump a claim** (JUMP[1] (10)), **stake a claim** (STAKE[2])

clai·mant /ˈkleɪmənt/ *n* [(**to**)] *fml or law* a person who asks for something, esp. money, because they think they have a right to it: *rival claimants to the throne | claimants of unemployment benefit*

clair·voy·ant /kleəˈvɔɪənt‖kleər-/ *n* a person who claims to be able to see what will happen in the future — **clairvoyant** *adj* : *clairvoyant powers* —**-ance** *n* [U]

clam[1] /klæm/ *n* a small soft-bodied sea animal with a shell in two parts that can open and close, that lives in sand or mud and can be eaten: (fig.) *She* **shut up like a clam** (=stopped talking suddenly) *when they started to ask questions.*

clam[2] *v* **-mm-** *esp. AmE* **go clamming** to collect clams by digging in the sand or mud

clam up *phr v* [I] *sl* to become silent, esp. because of fear or unwillingness to give information: *She clammed up whenever I mentioned her husband.*

clam·bake /ˈklæmbeɪk/ *n esp. AmE* **1** an informal party by the sea, esp. one where clams, etc., are cooked and eaten **2** *sl* a noisy, high-spirited party or political meeting

clam·ber /ˈklæmbəʳ/ *v* [I+*adv|prep*] to climb using both the feet and hands and usu. with difficulty: *We clambered down the side of the cliff. | Tell the children to stop clambering (about) over my new furniture.*

clam·my /ˈklæmi/ *adj* unpleasantly sticky, slightly wet, and usu. cold: *clammy hands|weather* —**-mily** *adv* —**-miness** *n* [U]

clam·our[1] *BrE* ‖ **clamor** *AmE* /ˈklæməʳ/ *n* **1** [S] a loud continuous, usu. confused noise or shouting: *a clamour of voices|*of bells **2** [U (**for**)] a continuous strong demand or complaint made by a large number of people: *The government ignored the clamour for a public inquiry into these events.* —**-orous** *adj* : *clamorous demands*

clamour[2] *BrE* ‖ **clamor** *AmE v* [I] **1** [I (**for**)] to express (a demand) continually, loudly, and strongly: *The people were clamouring for his execution. | The children were clamouring to be fed.* **2** to make a loud confused noise

clamp[1] /klæmp/ *n* **1** [C] an apparatus for fastening or holding things firmly together, usu. consisting of two parts that can be moved nearer together by turning a screw —see picture at LABORATORY **2** [C;*the*+S] also **wheel-clamp** *fml* ‖ **Denver boot** *AmE*— an apparatus that is fastened to the wheels of a car, etc., in order to prevent it from moving

clamp[2] *v* **1** [T+*obj*+*adv|prep*] to fasten or hold with a clamp: *Clamp the two pieces of wood together until the glue dries. | Clamp it onto the edge of the table.* **2** [T] also **wheelclamp** *BrE fml* ‖ **boot** *AmE*— to prevent (a car, etc.) from moving by putting a clamp on the wheels. In Britain, vehicles are usually clamped in a town because they have been parked in the wrong place. Their owners have to pay to get them back: *Oh no! My van's been|I've been clamped again!* —**~er** *n*

clamp down *phr v* [I (**on**)] to use one's power to limit or prevent practices that are disapproved of: *The police are determined to clamp down on violence at football matches.* —see also CLAMPDOWN

clamp·down /ˈklæmpdaʊn/ *n* [(**on**)] a sudden usu. official limitation or prevention of doing or saying something: *The government has ordered a (total) clampdown on public demonstrations.* —see also CLAMP **down**

clan /klæn/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] **1** (esp. in Scotland) a group of families, all originally descended from one family and all usu. having the same family name. In the past, each clan had a chief and wore cloth decorated with a particular pattern (a TARTAN): *the McIntosh clan* **2** *humor* a large family or group of related people: *The whole clan is|are coming to stay with us at Christmas.*

clan·des·tine /klænˈdestɪn/ *adj* done secretly or privately, and often against the law: *a clandestine meeting|marriage* —**~ly** *adv* —**~ness** *n* [U]

clang /klæŋ/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) make a loud ringing sound like the sound of metal being hit —**clang** *n* [S]

clang·er /ˈklæŋəʳ/ *n BrE sl* a very noticeable mistake or unintentionally foolish remark: *She* **dropped a clanger** *when she mentioned his ex-wife.*

clan·gor ‖ also **-gour** *BrE* /ˈklæŋəʳ/ *n* [(*the*) S] *esp. lit* a sound of repeated clanging: *the clangor of the bells* —**~ous** *adj* —**~ously** *adv*

clank /klæŋk/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) make a short loud sound, like that of a heavy metal chain being moved —**clank** *n* [S] : *the clank of chains as the ship's anchor was lowered into the sea*

clan·nish /ˈklænɪʃ/ *adj often derog* (of a group of people) closely united and tending not to trust or welcome people from outside the group —**~ly** *adv* —**~ness** *n* [U]

clans·man /ˈklænzmən/ **clans·wom·an** /-ˌwʊmən/ *fem.*— *n* **-men** /mən/ a member of a CLAN

clap[1] /klæp/ *v* **-pp-** **1** [I;T] to bring (one's open hands) together with a quick movement and loud sound, esp. to show approval of a performance: *The audience clapped loudly|enthusiastically at the end of the play.* —see also HANDCLAP **2** [T+*obj*+**on**] to hit lightly with the open hand in a friendly manner, usu. on the back: *His boss clapped him on the back approvingly.* **3** [T+*obj*+*adv|prep*] *infml* to put or place, usu. quickly and effectively: *The judge clapped her in prison before she had time to explain. | He clapped his hand over his mouth as soon as he realized what he had said.* **4 clap eyes on** *BrE infml* to see: *I haven't clapped eyes on her for years.*

clap[2] *n* **1** [C] a loud explosive sound: *a clap of thunder* **2** [S] an act of clapping the hands: *Give him a clap, everyone!* **3** [S (**on**)] a light friendly hit, usu. on the back, with the open hand

clap[3] *n* [*the*] *euph sl* the disease GONORRHEA

clap·board /ˈklæpbɔːd‖ˈklæbərd, ˈklæpbɔːrd/ *n* [U] *AmE for* WEATHERBOARD (1): *a clapboard house*

Clap·ham Junc·tion /ˌklæpəm ˈdʒʌŋkʃən/ a very busy railway station in SW London where a lot of people catch a train to work or change trains

clapped-out /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *adj infml, esp. BrE* **1** (of a thing) old and worn out: *a clapped-out old car* **2** [F] (of a person) very tired

clap·per /ˈklæpəʳ/ *n* **1** the hammer-like object inside a bell which strikes it to make it ring **2** an apparatus that makes a repeated loud noise: *Some farmers use clappers to keep birds off their crops.* —see also CLAPPERS

clap·per·board /ˈklæpəbɔːd‖-ərbɔːrd/ *n* a wooden board on which a short description of a scene to be filmed for the cinema or television is written. It is held up in front of the camera and its two connecting parts are clapped together.

clap·pers /ˈklæpəz‖-ərz/ *n* **like the clappers** *BrE infml* very fast: *to go|run like the clappers*

Clap·ton /ˈklæptən/, **Er·ic** /ˈerɪk/ (1945–) an English popular music GUITAR player, very much admired for his great skill

clap·trap /ˈklæptræp/ *n* [U] *infml* empty, insincere, or foolish talk or writing; nonsense: *He talked a lot of dangerous claptrap about the glories of war.*

claque /klæk/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] a group of people hired to give support by clapping (CLAP), esp. at a political meeting

Clare[1] /kleəʳ/ a COUNTY in the W of the Republic of Ireland

Clare[2]**, Dr Anthony** (1942–) a British television and radio presenter who is also a PSYCHIATRIST

Clare[3]**, John** (1793–1864) an English poet who wrote poems esp. about country life and went mad in 1837

Clar·ence House /ˌklærəns ˈhaʊs/ the house in London, next to St James's Palace, where Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother lives

clar·et[1] /ˈklærət/ *n* [U] **1** red wine, from the Bordeaux area of France **2** a deep purplish red colour

claret[2] *adj* having a deep purplish red colour

Clar·i·dge's /ˈklærɪdʒɪz/ a London hotel. Claridge's is thought to be a place where only the rich upper classes eat and stay.

clar·i·fi·ca·tion /ˌklærɪfɪˈkeɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] the act of clarifying or an example of something being clarified: *They asked for further clarification|for a clarification of the government's plans.*

clar·i·fy /ˈklærɪfaɪ/ *v* [T] **1** *fml* to make clearer and easier to understand, esp. by explaining and giving more details: *Will you clarify that statement? | When will the government clarify its position on equal pay for women?* **2** to make (a fat, esp. butter) clear and pure, esp. by gentle heating

clar·i·net /ˌklærɪˈnet/ *n* a musical instrument of the WOODWIND family, with a single REED (2) –see picture at WOODWIND

clar·i·net·tist , -netist /ˌklærɪˈnetɪst/ *n* a clarinet player

clar·i·on /ˈklæriən/ *n* (the sound made by) a kind of TRUMPET used in former times: (fig.) *the* **clarion call** (=very clear call) *of duty*

clar·i·ty /ˈklærɪti/ *n* [U] clearness, esp. the quality of being easy to understand: *clarity of expression*

Clark /klɑːk‖klɑːrk/**, Dick** (1929–) the host of several television GAME SHOWS and other programmes, known esp. for *American Bandstand*. People often say that Dick Clark looks very young for his age.

Clark, Sir Ken·neth /ˈkenəθ/ (1903–83) an EXPERT on the history of art, well-known in Britain esp. for his television programme *Civilization*

Clark, Pe·tu·la /pəˈtjuːlə ‖ -ˈtuː-/ (1932–) a female British singer of popular music

Clark, William (1770–1838) an American EXPLORER –see LEWIS AND CLARK

Clarke /klɑːk‖klɑːrk/**, Arthur C.** (1917–) a British scientist and writer of SCIENCE FICTION books, probably best-known for his book *2001: A Space Odyssey* which was made into an extremely popular and successful film in 1984

Clarke, Ken·neth /ˈkenəθ/ (1940–) an important British politician of the Conservative Party

Clarks /klɑːks‖klɑːrks/ *tdmk* (any of the shops owned by) a British company that makes shoes, esp. noted for its good range of children's shoes in different widths: *I got Jenny some sandals in|from Clarks.*

clash[1] /klæʃ/ *v* **1** [I (**with**)] to be in opposition or come into opposition: *Police and demonstrators clashed* (=met and fought) *outside the palace. | This shirt clashes with my trousers.* (=the colours do not match) *| Her wedding clashed with* (=was at the same time as) *my exam so I couldn't go.* **2** [I;T (TOGETHER)] to (cause to) make a loud noise, as of two metal objects struck together: *The cymbals clashed. | She clashed two pans together to wake us up.*

clash[2] *n* **1** [C (**of, between**)] an example of opposition or disagreement; CONFLICT: *a border clash between two armies | a serious clash of opinions|interests | There have been angry clashes in the Senate between supporters and opponents of the President. | They're both very determined people, so there's rather a clash of personalities.* **2** [S] a loud metallic noise: *the clash of cymbals|swords*

Clash, The one of the most popular British PUNK music groups formed in the 1970s whose success continued even when punk went out of fashion

clasp[1] /klɑːsp‖klæsp/ *n* **1** a usu. metal fastener for holding together two things or two parts of one thing: *the clasp on a belt* **2** [*usu. sing.*] a tight firm hold, esp. by someone's hand or arms; GRIP

clasp[2] *v* [T] *fml* **1** to take and hold firmly with the hands or arms: *He clasped the child in his arms. | The two men clasped hands warmly.* **2** [+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] to fasten with a clasp: *I clasped the necklace round her neck.*

▷ USAGE Compare **clasp, grasp,** and **grip. Clasp** means "to take and/or hold firmly inside your hand or arms": *The little girl was* **clasping** *a large doll.* **Grasp** means "to catch onto and hold firmly, especially with your hands": *I was able to save myself by* **grasping** *a rope.* **Grip** means "to take and keep a very tight hold of something, especially with your fingers or with a tool": *He* **gripped** *my arm in fear.*◁

clasp knife /ˈ· ·/ *n* a large knife whose blades fold into the handle; JACK KNIFE

class[1] /klɑːs‖klæs/ *n* **1** [C+*sing./pl. v*] also **classes** *pl.*– a social group whose members have the same political, social, and ECONOMIC position and rank: *the ruling class|classes | a member of the landowning class* –see also LOWER CLASS, MIDDLE CLASS, UPPER CLASS, WORKING CLASS **2** [U] the system of dividing society into groups with different social and political positions: *Class distinctions have become less important during the last 50 years.* –see also CLASS SYSTEM **3** [C+*sing./pl. v*] a group of pupils or students who are taught together: *The English class is|are reading Shakespeare. | We were both in the same class. | a class of 25 children* **4** [C] *AmE* a group of students who will finish studying in a particular year: *the class of 1979* **5** [C;U] a period of time during which pupils or students are taught: *What time does the next class begin? | She's attending evening classes in computer studies. | He told them off for talking in class.* **6** [C] a division of people or things according to their quality, level of performance, etc.: *What class (of degree) did you get? First, second, or third? | a first-class rail carriage | a top-class scientist|orchestra | Your mother's cooking is* **in a class of its own** *– it's marvellous!* –see also BUSINESS CLASS, CLUB CLASS, ECONOMY CLASS, FIRST CLASS, SECOND CLASS, TOURIST CLASS **7** [C] *tech* a division of animals or plants below a PHYLUM and above an ORDER[1] (15) **8** [U] *infml* a stylish quality, e.g. in clothes or social behaviour, that attracts admiration: *a girl with real class*

class[2] *v* [T (**as, among, with**)] to regard as belonging to a particular class or type; consider: *In some countries, people who disagree with the government are classed as criminals.*

class ac·tion /ˌ· ˈ··◂/ *n AmE* a LAWSUIT set up by a group of people for their own advantage and also for that of all others with the same complaint: *The miners with lung diseases brought a class action against the company.* – **class-action** *adj* : *a class-action suit*

class-con·scious /ˈ· ˌ··/ *adj often derog* very conscious of one's own social position and sometimes distrustful of, or unfriendly towards, people from other classes: *She's too class-conscious to be friendly with the cleaners.* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

clas·sic[1] /ˈklæsɪk/ *adj* [A *no comp.*] **1** of the highest quality or class and esp. serving as a model, standard, or perfect representative of a particular type: *a classic horse race | Lewis Carroll's classic children's stories | This film is a classic western movie.* **2** of a very typical and well-known kind: *a* **classic example|case** *of love at first sight | a classic mistake | (infml) He didn't really say that? That's classic!* **3** simple in style and likely to remain fashionable for a long time: *a simple classic suit*

classic[2] *n* **1** a book, play, or other work of art that is regarded as being a very fine example of its type and having lasting importance: *Shakespeare's plays are among the great classics of English literature. | a modern classic | His production of "Dracula" is one of the classics of the pre-war cinema. |* (fig.) *That joke's a classic.* **2** a famous esp. sporting event, usu. with a long history –see also CLASSICS

clas·si·cal /ˈklæsɪkəl/ *adj* [*no comp.*] **1** connected with, belonging to, or influenced by the art, life and literature of ancient Greece and Rome: *classical authors|languages | a classical education | a building in the classical style of architecture* **2** (of music) written with serious artistic intentions and having an attraction that lasts over a long period of time: *She prefers pop music*

and jazz to classical music. | *the works of several classical composers, including Bach and Mozart* **3** based on or belonging to an old or established system of principles or methods, e.g. in art or science; TRADITIONAL or ORTHODOX: *Classical scientific ideas about light were changed by Einstein.* | *How do you explain this in terms of classical Marxist theory?*

classical my·thol·o·gy /ˌ··· ·ˈ···/ *n* the ancient stories of the Greeks and Romans —see colour picture on page 423

classic car /ˌ·· ˈ· / *n* a model of car, usu. not as old as a VINTAGE car, which is considered to be notable in some way, e.g. for its shape or its performance: *The Ford Thunderbird/E-type Jaguar is a true classic car.*

clas·si·cis·m /ˈklæsɨsɪzəm/ *n* [U] **1** the principles, ideas, and style (esp. with regard to balance, regularity, and simpleness of form) of the art or literature of ancient Greece or Rome **2** (*often cap.*) (in art and literature, esp. in Europe in the 18th century) the quality of being simple, balanced, and controlled, not giving way to feeling, and following ancient models —compare REALISM (2), ROMANTICISM

clas·si·cist /ˈklæsɨsɨst/ *n* a person who studies CLASSICS

classic rock /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] ROCK MUSIC in the style of, and including, the most successful songs of the 1960s and 1970s, for example those of the Rolling Stones —compare HARD ROCK

clas·sics /ˈklæsɪks/ *n* [*the*+P;U] (*often cap.*) the languages, literature, and history of ancient Greece and Rome. Very few people study classics now, but in the past a person without knowledge of the subject was considered uneducated.

Classics Il·lus·tra·ted /ˌ·· ˈ····/ *AmE* (any of) a group of COMICS[2] which retell well-known and important stories form literature: *The Classics Illustrated version of "The Three Musketeers"* | *I read "Moby Dick" in Classics Illustrated.*

clas·si·fi·ca·tion /ˌklæsɨfɨˈkeɪʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the act or process of classifying people or things (such as plants, animals, books in libraries, etc.) into groups **2** [C] a group, division, class, or CATEGORY into which something is placed

clas·si·fied /ˈklæsɨfaɪd/ *adj* **1** (of government, esp. military, information) officially secret **2** divided or arranged in classes

classified ad /ˌ··· ˈ·/ also **classified, small ad** *BrE* ‖ also **want ad** *AmE*— *n* a usu. small advertisement placed in a newspaper by a person wishing to sell or buy something, offer or get employment, etc.: *She scanned the column of classified ads.*

clas·si·fy /ˈklæsɨfaɪ/ *v* [T] to arrange (animals, plants, books, etc.) into classes; divide according to class or type

class·is·m /ˈklɑːsɪzəm‖ˈklæ-/ *n* [U] unfair opinions based on social class, esp. the belief that one's own class is the best —compare SEXISM —**-ist** *adj*

class·less /ˈklɑːsləs‖ˈklæs-/ *adj* **1** (of a society) not divided into social classes **2** belonging to no particular social class: *a classless accent* —~**ness** *n* [U]

class·mate /ˈklɑːsmeɪt‖ˈklæs-/ *n* a member of the same class in a school, college, or, in the US, university: *We were classmates ten years ago.*

class·room /ˈklɑːs-rʊm, -ruːm‖ˈklæs-/ *n* a room in a school, college, etc., in which a class meets for a lesson

class strug·gle /ˌ· ˈ··◂/ also **class war** /ˌ· ˈ·◂/— *n* [(*the*) U] **1** disagreement and opposition between different classes in a society **2** (in Marxist political thought) the struggle for power carried on between the CAPITALIST class (=the owners of property, factories, etc.) and the PROLETARIAT (=the ordinary workers)

class sys·tem /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* [*the*] the division of society into UPPER CLASS, MIDDLE CLASS, and LOWER CLASS according to social background and professional position

class·work /ˈklɑːswɜːk‖ˈklæswɜːrk/ *n* [U] school work done by students in class, rather than as HOMEWORK

class·y /ˈklɑːsi‖ˈklæsi/ *adj infml* fashionable and of high class: *one of the classiest restaurants in London*

clat·ter[1] /ˈklætəʳ/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) make a clatter, esp. as a result of movement: *The metal dish clattered down the stone stairs.*

clatter[2] *n* **1** [S] a loud noise like that made by hard objects hitting each other: *a clatter of dishes* **2** [U] noise caused by people talking or busy activity: *the busy clatter of the city*

Clau·di·us /ˈklɔːdiəs/ (10 BC–54 AD) an EMPEROR of Rome. His name is known in Britain and the US esp. because of a television SERIES called *I, Claudius* which was based on two books by Robert Graves.

clause /klɔːz/ *n* **1** *tech* (in grammar) a group of words containing a subject and FINITE verb, forming a sentence or part of a sentence, and often doing the work of a noun, adjective, or adverb. In *"she came home when she was tired", she came home* and *when she was tired* are two separate clauses. —compare PHRASE, SENTENCE; see also DEPENDENT CLAUSE, INDEPENDENT CLAUSE, PENALTY CLAUSE, RELATIVE CLAUSE, SUBORDINATE CLAUSE **2** a separate division of a written legal DOCUMENT with its own separate and complete meaning: *Their contracts contain a no-strike clause.*

Clause 28 /ˌklɔːz twenti ˈeɪt/ part of a British law which forbids local government authorities from spending money on any activity which gives favourable treatment to HOMOSEXUALS

claus·tro·pho·bi·a /ˌklɔːstrəˈfəʊbiə/ *n* [U] fear of being shut up in a small enclosed space —compare AGORAPHOBIA

claus·tro·pho·bic[1] /ˌklɔːstrəˈfəʊbɪk/ *n* a person suffering from claustrophobia

claustrophobic[2] *adj* **1** suffering from claustrophobia **2** (of a space) causing claustrophobia: *a claustrophobic little room*

clav·i·chord /ˈklævɨkɔːd ‖ -kɔːrd/ *n* an early musical instrument similar to a piano

clav·i·cle /ˈklævɪkəl/ *n med for* COLLARBONE —see picture at SKELETON

claw[1] /klɔː/ *n* **1** a sharp usu. curved nail on the toe of an animal or bird: *The cat dug its claws into me.* —see picture at BIRD **2** a limb of certain insects and sea animals, such as CRABS, used for attacking, catching, and holding objects —see picture at LOBSTER **3** the split curved end of some tools for pulling nails out of wood: *a claw hammer* **4 have/get one's claws in(to): a** to show jealousy or strong dislike of (someone), esp. by saying unpleasant things about them **b** to try to trap, esp. in order to marry

claw[2] *v* [I (**at**);T] to tear, pull, take hold of, etc., (as if) with claws: *The cat clawed a hole in my stocking/clawed at the leg of the table.* | *She clawed her way to the top of the political ladder.*

claw sthg. ↔ **back** *phr v* [T] **1** to get back with great difficulty or effort: *Through aggressive advertising the company managed to claw back its share of the market.* **2** *esp. BrE* (of a government) to get back (money given to the public in tax cuts) by means of increases in other forms of tax

clay /kleɪ/ *n* [U] heavy firm earth that is soft when wet but becomes hard when baked at a high temperature, from which bricks, pots, etc., are made —see also FEET OF CLAY —~**ey** /ˈkleɪ-i/ *adj* : *clayey soil*

Clay, Cas·si·us /ˈkæsiəs/ see MUHAMMAD ALI

clay·more /ˈkleɪmɔːʳ/ *n* a large sword used in former times in the Scottish Highlands

clay pi·geon /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* a plate-shaped piece of baked clay thrown up into the air to be shot at in the sport of **clay pigeon shooting**

clean[1] /kliːn/ *adj* **1** free from dirt: *Are your hands clean?* | *a spotlessly clean room* | *Sweep the floor clean.* | *I changed into a clean shirt.* **2** free from bacteria or anything impure: *clean drinking water* | *clean energy* (=energy produced in a way that does not cause POLLUTION) **3** free from RADIOACTIVE FALLOUT: *They say the nuclear power station here is completely clean.* **4** not yet used; fresh: *a clean piece of paper* **5** morally or sexually pure: *Don't worry about it; it's all good clean fun!* | *a clean joke* (=one not concerned with sex) **6** not disobeying rules or laws; fair or honest: *a clean fight* | *She has a clean record.* (=is not a criminal) | *a clean driving licence* | *All the presidential candidates fought a clean campaign.* **7** having a smooth edge or surface; even; regular: *a clean cut* | *the aircraft's clean lines* | (fig.) *to make a clean break with the past* **8** [F] *sl* having no hidden weapons, illegal drugs, etc.: *The police searched him but he was clean.*

9 a clean bill of health a favourable report on the health of a person or the satisfactory condition of a machine, organization, etc.: *The factory was later given a clean bill of health by the inspector.* **10 come clean** *infml* to admit one's guilt or tell the (esp. unpleasant) truth: *Why don't you come clean about your involvement in all this?* —see also CLEANLY, **make a clean breast of** (BREAST[1]) — **~ness** *n* [U] : *The cleanness of his room surprised me.*

clean[2] *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) become clean, esp. by rubbing and often without water: *Your shoes need cleaning.* | *to clean one's nails|one's teeth|the windows* | *to clean marks off the table* —see also DRY-CLEAN, SPRING-CLEAN **2** [T] to cut out the inside parts of the body from (birds and animals that are to be eaten) —compare EVISCERATE **~ing** *n*: *to do the cleaning*

▷ USAGE In order to clean a room and its contents you can **brush** any surface at any level using a brush, usually held in one hand. You can **sweep** the floor using a brush with a long handle. You can **dust** surfaces above floor level using a soft cloth. You can **scrub** any surface by rubbing it hard with a short, stiff brush using water. You can **wipe** any surface by rubbing it with a cloth, probably using some water. —see also WASH (USAGE) ◁

clean sthg./sbdy. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] **1** to make (the inside of a room, box, etc.) clean and tidy: *She cleaned out the rabbit's hutch.* **2** *infml* **a** to take all the money of: *If we have to get the car repaired, we'll be completely cleaned out.* **b** to steal everything from (a place): *The thieves cleaned out the store.*

clean up *phr v* **1** [I;T (=**clean** sthg. ↔ **up**)] to clean thoroughly and remove anything unwanted: *It's your turn to clean (the kitchen) up.* | *Clean up this mess at once!* | (fig.) *The new mayor has promised to clean up the town by getting rid of all the criminals.* **2** [I;T (=**clean up** sthg.)] *infml* to gain (a large amount of money) as profit: *We really cleaned up at the races today.* | *He cleaned up a fortune playing cards.* —see also CLEANUP

clean[3] *n* [S] an act of cleaning: *Give the windows|your shoes a good clean.*

clean[4] *adv* **1** completely: *I* **clean forgot** *it was her birthday.* [+*adv*|*prep*] *The bullet went clean through his arm.* | *The bank robbers* **got clean away.** (=escaped easily) **2 clean bowled** (in cricket) bowled (BOWL[2] (2)) by a ball which does not touch the BAT

clean-cut /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *adj* **1** well shaped; regular: *a clean-cut hairstyle* **2** neat and clean in appearance; PRESENTABLE: *a clean-cut college boy*

clean·er /ˈkliːnəʳ/ *n* **1** a person whose job is cleaning offices, houses, etc. **2** a machine, apparatus, or substance used in cleaning

clean·er's *BrE* ‖ **cleaners** *AmE* /ˈkliːnəz‖-nərz/ *n* [(*the*) S] **1** a DRY CLEANER'S **2 take someone to the cleaner's** *infml* to cause someone to lose all their money or possessions, esp. by dishonesty

cleaning la·dy /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a woman who works as a cleaner in a house, office, or public building: *She has a cleaning lady who comes in twice a week.*

clean-limbed /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *adj apprec or humor* (esp. of a young man) tall, well-built, and active-looking

clean·li·ness /ˈklenlinəs/ *n* [U] **1** habitual cleanness: *high standards of cleanliness* **2 cleanliness is next to godliness** you need to keep your body clean in order to be a good and religious person. This phrase is connected esp. with Puritan ideas about religion and behaviour. —see also PURITAN

clean·ly[1] /ˈkliːnli/ *adv* in a clean manner (esp. CLEAN[1] (4)): *The branch snapped cleanly in two.* | *The voting was split cleanly along party lines.*

clean·ly[2] /ˈklenli/ *adj fml* careful to keep clean; habitually clean

cleanse /klenz/ *v* [T] *fml* **1** to make (a cut, wound, or one's skin) clean or pure: *The nurse cleansed the wound before stitching it.* **2** [(**of**)] to make morally pure or free from guilt: *He asked God to cleanse him of his sins.*

cleans·er /ˈklenzəʳ/ *n* [C;U] a substance, such as a chemical liquid or powder, used for cleaning: *Always use a gentle cleanser to remove make-up from your face.*

clean-shav·en /ˌ· ˈ··◂/ *adj* with no hair on the lower part of the face: *He used to have a moustache and beard, but now he's clean-shaven.*

clean sweep /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] **1** a complete removal or change: *The company chairman has made a clean sweep and replaced his entire management team.* **2** a complete victory: *The race was a clean sweep for Germany — they finished first, second, and third.*

clean·up /ˈkliːn-ʌp/ *n* **1** [S] the act of cleaning thoroughly: *a cleanup campaign against industrial pollution* **2** [C] *sl, esp. AmE* a very large profit

clear[1] /klɪəʳ/ *adj* **1** easy to see through: *clear glass* **2** free from anything that marks or darkens: *The sun shone out of a clear sky.* (=with no clouds) | *clear eyes* | *clear skin* **3** easy to hear, read, or understand: *His voice rang out (as) clear as a bell.* | *a clear speaker* | *a clear style of writing* | *The instructions on the packet weren't very clear.* **4** able to think and understand quickly and well: *a clear thinker* | *He didn't have another drink because he wanted to keep a clear head for his interview.* **5** [(**to**)] impossible to doubt, question, or be mistaken about; plain; UNMISTAKABLE: *a clear case of murder* | *clear evidence of her guilt* | *They won by a clear majority.* | *It is becoming clear (to most people) that the government's policy was wrong.* [+*wh*-] *It is not yet clear whether we will be affected by these changes.* | *One thing I'd like to* **make** *absolutely* **clear** *is that...* | *I don't want this to happen again* — **do I make myself clear?** (shows annoyance) **6** [F (**about**)] feeling certain; having no doubts or uncertainty: *She seems quite clear about her plans.* [+*wh*-] *I'm still not quite clear how it works|which button to press.* **7** [(**of**)] open; free from anything that blocks or covers: *a clear view* | *The road is clear of snow now.* | *to tidy up one's papers and leave a clear desk* **8** (of time) free from (other) planned activity: *I see that next week is clear: let's meet then.* | *We have three clear weeks in which to finish the job.* **9** [(**of**)] free from guilt or blame; untroubled: *with a clear conscience* **10** [A;after *n*] *tech* (esp. of wages or profit) remaining after all taxes, etc., have been paid; NET[3]: *I get a clear £200 a week.* | *I get £200 a week clear.* —see also ALL CLEAR, CLARITY, CLEARLY, **the coast is clear** (COAST[1]) — **~ness** *n* [U]

clear[2] *adv* **1** in a clear manner: *The signal is coming in* **loud and clear.** **2** [(**of**)] out of the way; so as to be no longer inside or near: *She jumped clear (of the train).* | *When I get clear of* (=repay) *my debts, I'm going to go for a long holiday.* **3** [+*adv*|*prep*] completely; all the way: *You can see clear to the mountains today!* —see also **steer clear of** (STEER[1])

clear[3] *v* **1** [I;T (**of**)] to (cause to) become clear: *After the storm the sky cleared.* | *This soap should help clear your skin (of spots).* **2** [T (AWAY, **from, off**)] to remove (anything that blocks, covers, or prevents movement) from (a place): *I'll just clear all my papers off the table.* | *Will you clear the dinner plates away|clear the table?* | *Police cleared the crowd|cleared the area close to the explosion.* | *Snowploughs have been out clearing the roads.* | *He* **cleared his throat** *before beginning to speak.* | (fig.) *This agreement will* **clear the way** *for further talks.* **3** [T (**of**)] to show or declare to be free from blame or guilt: *He's been cleared of murdering the old lady.* **4** [T (**with**)] **a** to give or get official permission to or for: *The plans for the new road have not yet been cleared by the local council.* | *The plane took off as soon as it was cleared.* | *You can't begin the project until you've cleared it with the authorities.* **b** to satisfy all the official conditions of: *The car cleared customs and was soon across the border.* **5** [T] to pass by or over (something) without touching: *The horse easily cleared the fence.* **6** [T] to repay (a debt) in full **7** [I;T] **a** to pass (a cheque) from one bank to another through a CLEARINGHOUSE **b** (of a cheque) to pass in this way: *It will take four days for your cheque to clear.* **8** [T] *infml* to earn (more than the stated sum of money): *She clears £20,000 a year easily.* **9** [T] *tech* to discover the meaning of (a message in a secret language); DECODE **10 clear the air** to remove doubt and bad feeling by honest explanation **11 clear the decks** *infml* to get ready for action: *Let's clear the decks and start work.*

clear off *phr v* [I] *infml* to leave a place, often quickly: *Clear off before I call the police!*

clear out *phr v* **1** [I (**of**)] *infml* to leave, esp. a building or enclosed space, often quickly **2** [T] (**clear** sthg. ↔ **out**) **a** to collect and throw away (unwanted objects): *to clear out all one's old clothes* **b** to empty or make

clear of unwanted objects, dirt, etc.: *I wish you'd clear out your drawers – they're full of junk.* –see also CLEAROUT

clear up *phr v* **1** [T] (**clear** sthg. ↔ **up**) to find an answer to; explain: *to clear up a mystery | a murder case that was never cleared up* **2** [I;T (=**clear** sthg. ↔ **up**)] to put in order; tidy up; finish: *I've got a big backlog of work to clear up by the weekend. | Don't expect me to clear up after you* (=tidy your things) *all the time!* **3** [I] to become less bad or come to an end: *I hope the weather clears up before Sunday.*

clear[4] *n* **in the clear** *infml* free from danger, guilt, debt, etc.: *The police have gone so we're in the clear.*

clear·ance /ˈklɪərəns/ *n* **1** [C;U] the act of clearing or fact of being cleared (esp. CLEAR[3] (2,4,7)): *Clearance of this cheque could take a week. | The ship sailed as soon as it got clearance. | a programme of slum clearance* (=getting rid of old houses) –see also CLEARANCES **2** [C;U] the distance between one object and another passing beneath or beside it: *The clearance between the bridge and the top of the bus was only ten centimetres.* **3** [U] also **security clearance**– official acceptance, esp. after some kind of examination, that a person can be depended on not to tell government secrets to an enemy: *You need clearance before you can work in this laboratory.*

clear·an·ces /ˈklɪərənsɨz/ *n* [*the* + P] the system of forcing people to leave their homes and land in Scotland in the 18th and 19th centuries to make the land clear for sheep farming. Many people left Scotland and went to Canada and the US.

clearance sale /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a time when a shop sells goods cheaply so as to get rid of as many as possible

clear-cut /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *adj* **1** clear in shape; DISTINCT (2): *the clear-cut outline of the mountains against the sky* **2** clear in meaning; DEFINITE: *clear-cut plans for future expansion*

clear-head·ed /ˌ· ˈ··◂/ *adj* showing clear understanding; not confused: *a clear-headed decision* – ~**ly** *adv* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

clear·ing /ˈklɪərɪŋ/ *n* **1** [C] a usu. small area of land cleared of trees and bushes: *a clearing in the forest|jungle* **2** [U] (in Britain) the process of finding places at universities or POLYTECHNICS, used by students who have not done as well as expected in their A-level examinations. Usually, students are offered places before the results of their examinations are known, but they are only able to accept the place if their results are good enough. If their results are not good enough, they use the clearing system, in which they try to find a university or polytechnic that will accept them.

clearing bank /ˈ·· ·/ *n* (in Britain) a bank that handles the financial deals of companies and other people and is a member of the **London Bankers' Clearing House**

clear·ing·house /ˈklɪərɪŋhaʊs/ *n* **-houses** /ˌhaʊzɨz/ a place where banks exchange cheques and settle their accounts

clear·ly /ˈklɪəli‖ˈklɪərli/ *adv* **1** in a clear manner, esp. in a way that is easy to hear, read, or understand: *to explain something clearly|speak clearly | The bottle was clearly labelled.* **2** undoubtedly; plainly: *That's clearly a mistake. | Clearly, there will have to be an inquiry about this.*

clear·out /ˈklɪəraʊt/ *n* [S] *infml, esp. BrE* an act of clearing something out (CLEAR **out**): *We gave the house a good clearout today.*

clear-sight·ed /ˌ· ˈ··◂/ *adj* **1** able to see clearly **2** able to make good judgments about the future – ~**ly** *adv* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

clear·way /ˈklɪəweɪ‖ˈklɪər-/ *n esp. BrE* a stretch of road which is not a MOTORWAY but on which cars can only stop when in difficulties

cleat /kliːt/ *n* **1** [*usu. pl.*] any of several pieces of rubber, iron, etc., fastened to the SOLE (=the bottom) of a shoe to prevent slipping **2** a small bar with two short arms around which ropes can be tied, esp. on a ship

cleav·age /ˈkliːvɪdʒ/ *n* **1** [C;U] a break caused by splitting; division: *a sharp cleavage in society between rich and poor* **2** [C] the space between a woman's breasts, esp. that which can be seen when she is wearing a low-cut dress

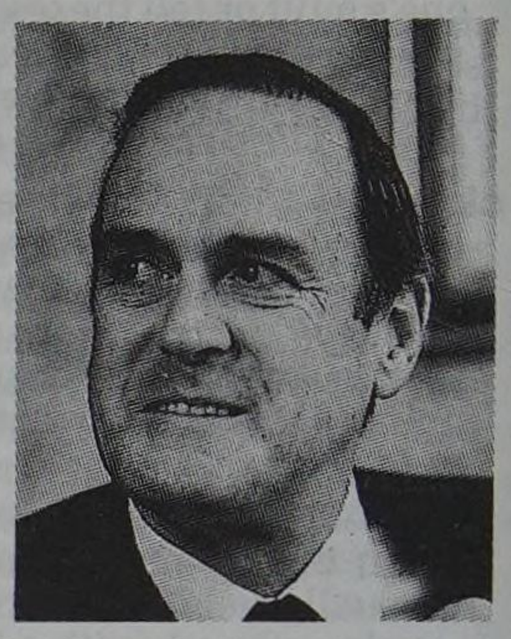
cleave /kliːv/ *v* **cleaved** *or* **cleft** /kleft/ *or* **clove** /kləʊv/, **cleaved** *or* **cleft** *or* **cloven** /ˈkləʊvən/ [T+*obj*+*adv*|*prep*] *lit or old use* to divide or separate by a cutting blow

cleave to sbdy./sthg. *phr v* **cleaved to** *or* **clove to** [T] *lit or old use* **1** to remain loyal or faithful to (a person, belief, custom, etc.) **2** to stick to (something else)

cleav·er /ˈkliːvəʳ/ *n* a heavy tool, used esp. by BUTCHERS for cutting up large pieces of meat –see picture at AXE

Cleese /kliːz/, **John** (1939–) an English actor who usu. plays humorous parts. He is unusually tall and is best known for playing men who behave in very strange and amusing ways, esp. in the television SERIES *Monty Python's Flying Circus* and as the hotel owner Basil Fawlty in the television series *Fawlty Towers* –see colour picture on page 686

John Cleese



Clee·thorpes /ˈkliːθɔːps‖-θɔːrps/ a coastal town in Humberside in England

clef /klef/ *n* a sign put at the beginning of a line of written music to show the PITCH of the notes: *a treble|bass clef*

cleft[1] /kleft/ *n* a crack, opening, or split: *a cleft in the rocks*

cleft[2] *past tense & participle of* CLEAVE

cleft pal·ate /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* an unnatural split in the roof of the mouth, with which people are sometimes born and which causes difficulty in speaking

cleft stick /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n BrE* **(caught) in a cleft stick** (caught) in an awkward position from which it is difficult to escape or in which it is difficult to make a decision

clem·a·tis /ˈklemətɨs, klɨˈmeɪtɨs/ *n* [U] a climbing plant with white, yellow, pink, or purple flowers

clem·en·cy /ˈklemənsi/ *n* [U] *fml* **1** willingness not to punish or to punish less severely: *an appeal for clemency* **2** mildness (MILD), esp. of the weather

Clem·ens /ˈklemənz/, **Sam·u·el Lang·horne** /ˈsæmjuəl ˈlæŋhɔːn‖-hɔːrn/ the real name of Mark TWAIN

clem·ent /ˈklemənt/ *adj* **1** *fml* (esp. of the weather) not severe; MILD **2** *lit* showing sympathy in deciding punishments; MERCIFUL: *a clement judge* – ~**ly** *adv*

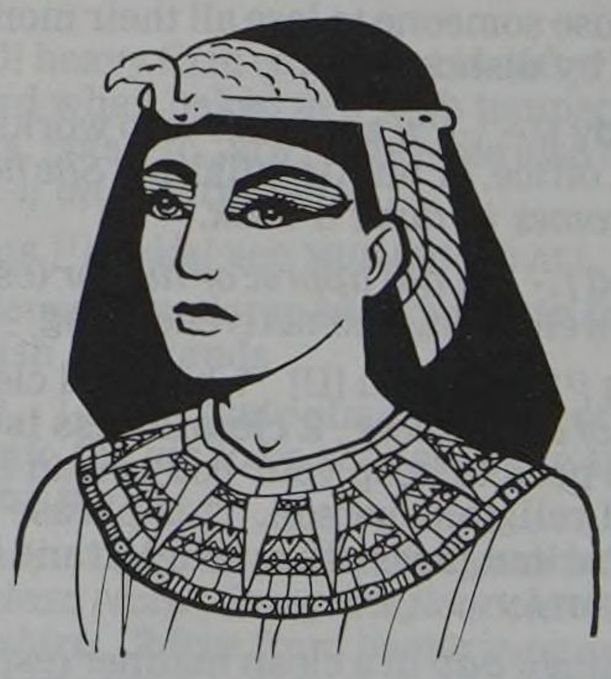
clem·en·tine /ˈkleməntiːn, -taɪn/ *n* a kind of small, sweet orange

Clem·en·tine /ˈkleməntaɪn/ an old popular song about a girl who drowns. It is usually sung in a humorous, rather than a serious way:

Oh my darling, oh my darling,
Oh my darling, Clementine;
Thou art lost and gone forever,
Dreadful sorry, Clementine.

clench /klentʃ/ *v* [T] to close or hold tightly in a way that shows determination or anger: *She clenched her teeth and refused to move. | He clenched his fists threateningly.* – **clench** *n*

Cleopatra



Cle·o·pat·ra /ˌkliːəˈpætrə◂/ (69–30 BC) a Queen of Egypt famous for her beauty and for having killed herself by holding an ASP (=a small snake) to her breast. Shakespeare wrote the play *Antony and Cleopatra* about her relationship with the Roman general Mark Antony.

Cleopatra's Nee·dle /ˌ···· ˈ··/ one of two OBELISKS (=tall, pointed pieces of stone) originally from Egypt. One stands on the Embankment in London, and one in Central Park, New York.

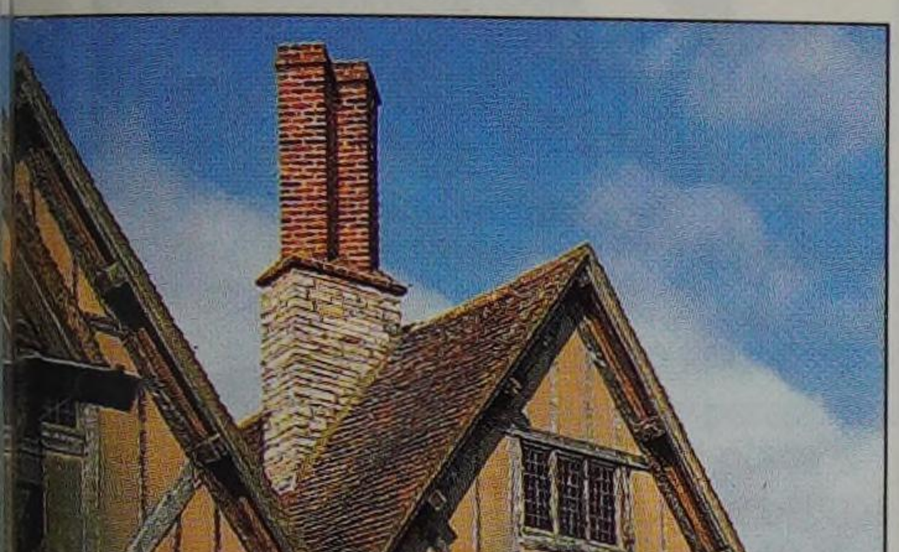
clere·sto·ry /ˈklɪəstəri‖ˈklɪərˌstɔːri/ *n* the upper part of the wall of a large church, which has windows in it and rises



A Norman church



A Tudor manor house



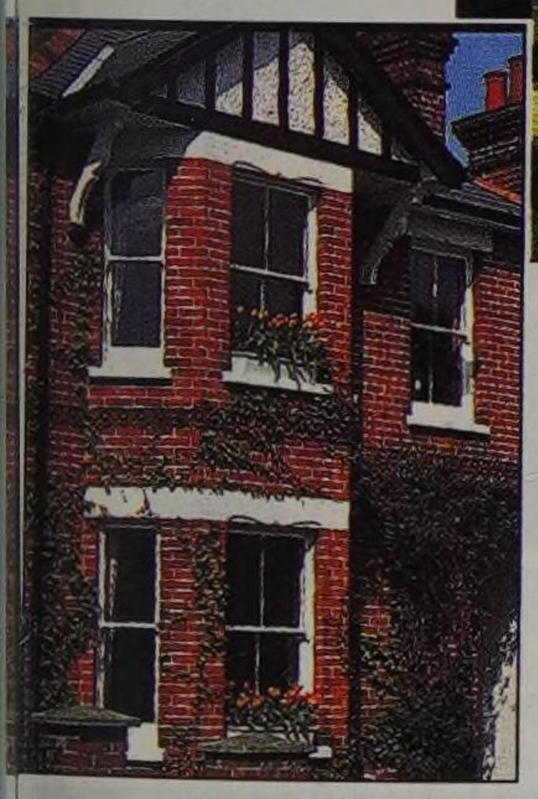
An Elizabethan House



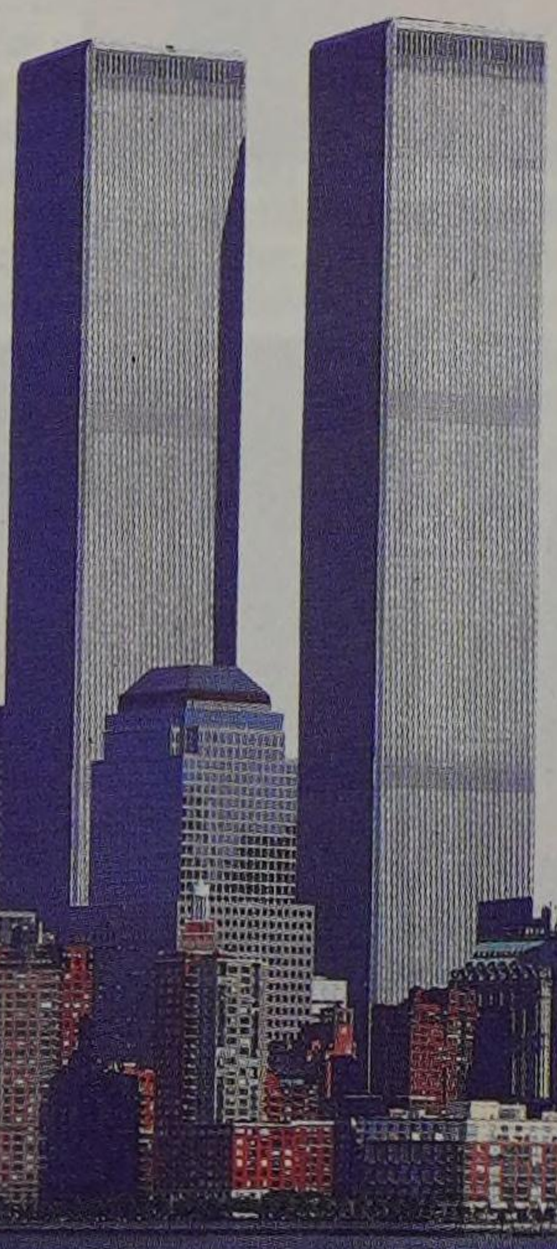
Georgian houses



An American colonial mansion



A Victorian terraced house



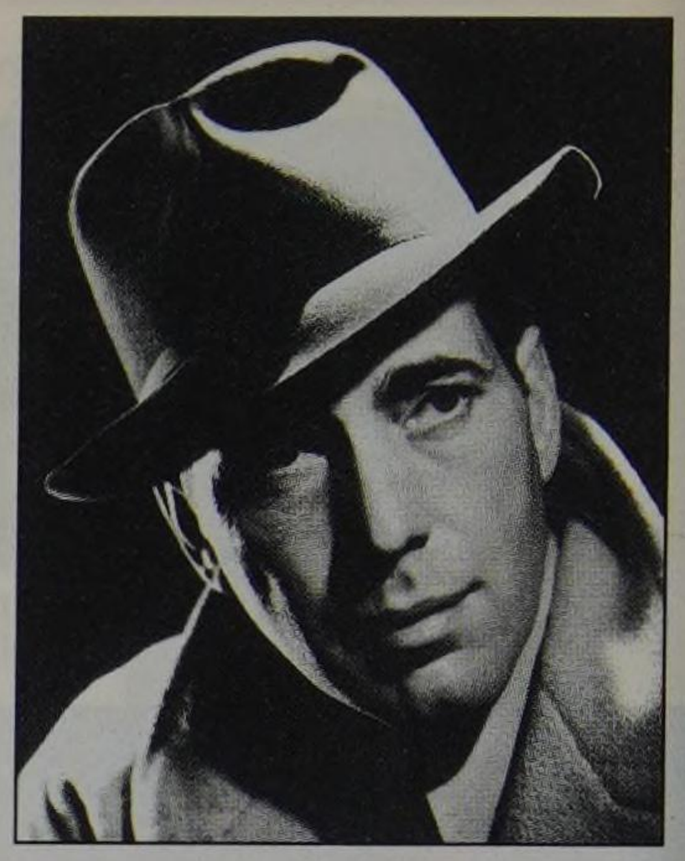
Modern American architecture



Greta Garbo



Marilyn Monroe



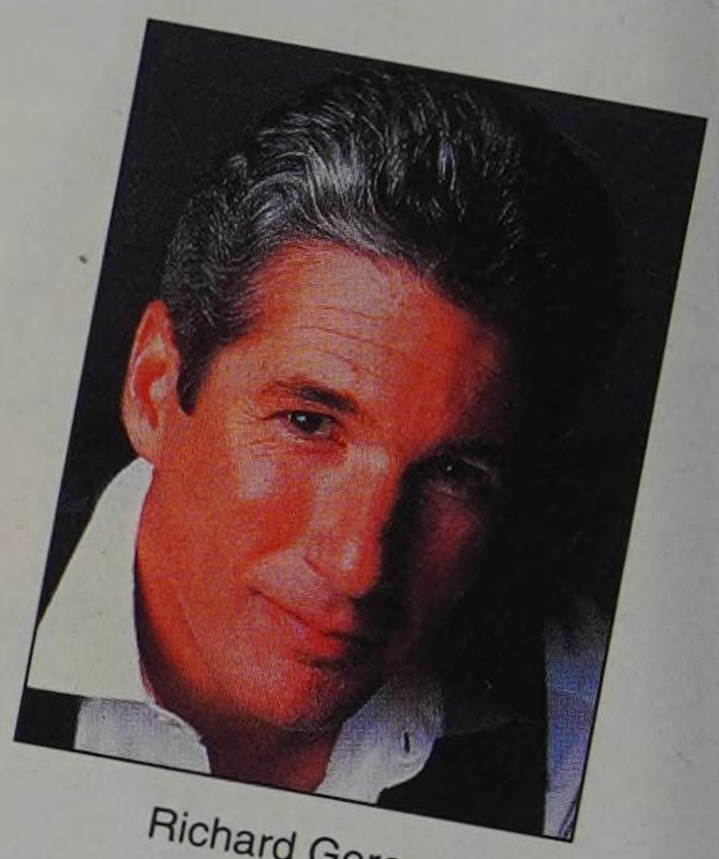
Humphrey Bogart



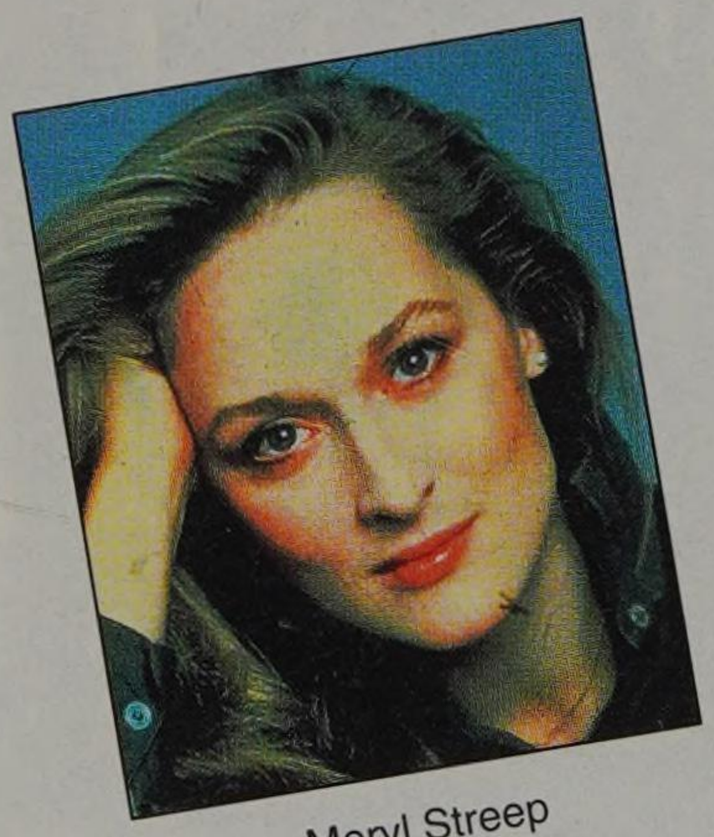
James Dean



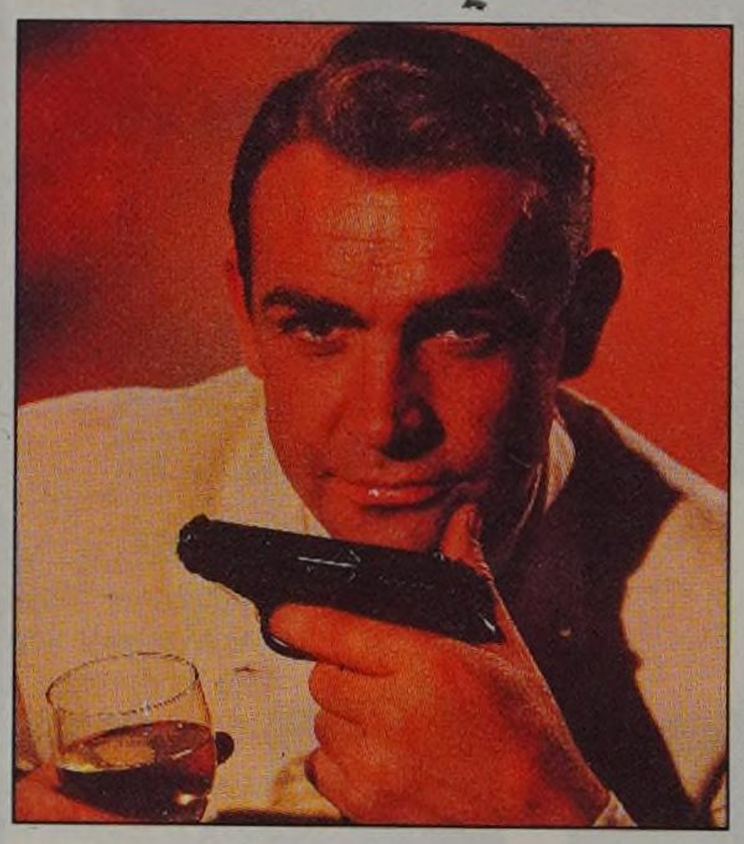
Elizabeth Taylor



Richard Gere



Meryl Streep



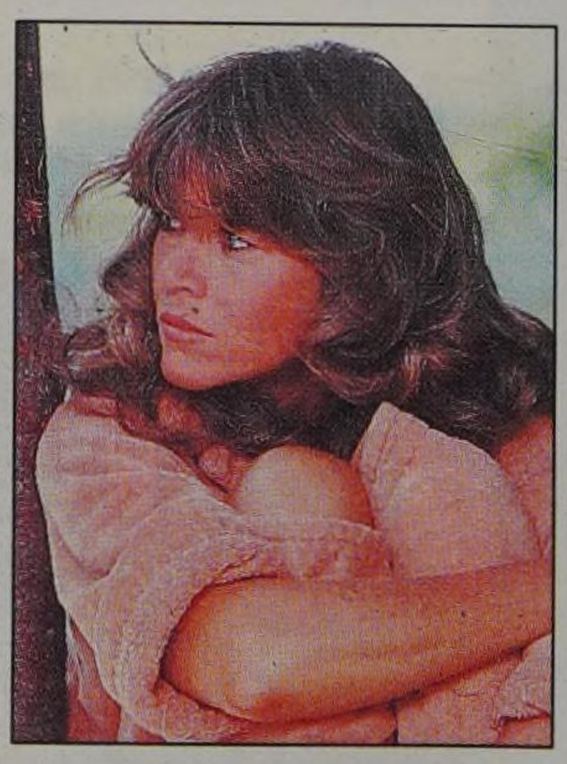
Sean Connery



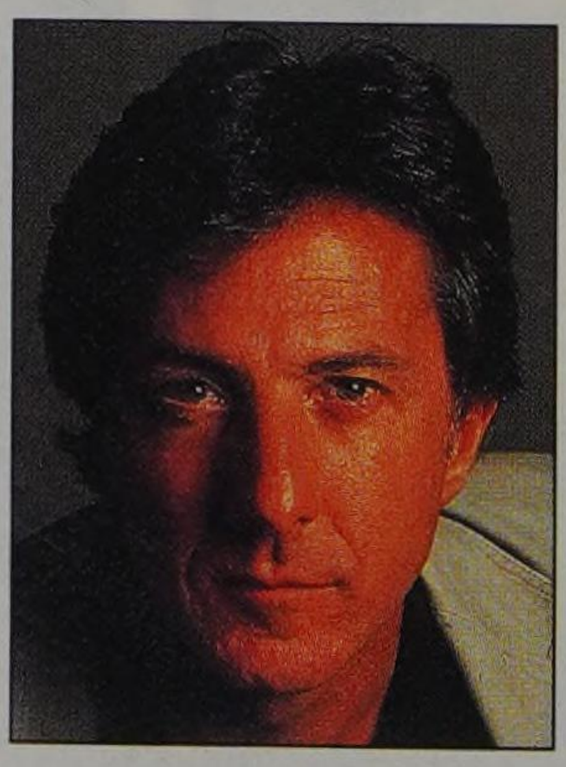
Michelle Pfeiffer



Robert de Niro



Jane Fonda



Dustin Hoffman



Jack Nicholson

above the lower roofs —see picture at CHURCH

cler·gy /ˈklɜːdʒi‖-ɜːr-/ *n* [(*the*) P] (esp. in the Christian church) the people who are members of the priesthood and who are allowed to perform religious services

cler·gy·man /ˈklɜːdʒimən‖-ɜːr-/ *n* **-men** /mən/ a member of the clergy; priest —see PRIEST (USAGE)

cler·ic /ˈklerɪk/ *n* a clergyman

cler·i·cal /ˈklerɪkəl/ *adj* [*no comp.*] **1** of or concerning someone who works in an office: *clerical work* | *a clerical error* **2** of or concerning the clergy: *wearing a clerical collar* —~**ly** /kli/ *adv*

cler·i·hew /ˈklerɪhjuː/ *n* a four-lined humorous poem about a well-known person

clerk[1] /klɑːk‖klɜːrk/ *n* **1** also **clerical worker**— a person employed to keep records or accounts, or to do general office work: *a filing clerk* **2** an official in charge of the records of a court, town council, etc. —see also TOWN CLERK **3** also **salesclerk**— *AmE* a person who works in a shop selling things **4** *law* a priest; clergyman —see OFFICER (USAGE)

clerk[2] *v* [I] *infml, esp. AmE* to act or work as a clerk

clerk of works /ˌ· · ˈ·/ *n BrE* the person in charge of building operations in a particular place

Cleve·land[1] /ˈkliːvlənd/ **1** a COUNTY in NE England. In 1987 there was a lot of public concern in Britain when some children in Cleveland were taken away from their parents by the SOCIAL SERVICES because doctors and SOCIAL WORKERS believed that the children were being abused (ABUSE) by their parents. It was later found that most of the children had not been abused, and this led many people to question the methods used by the doctors and social workers. **2** a city in the US state of Ohio. Many Americans use Cleveland as an example of a city which is not very nice and rather dull. —see colour map on page 1374-5

Cleveland[2]**, Gro·ver** /ˈgrəʊvəʳ/ (1837–1908) the 22nd and 24th president of the US

clev·er /ˈklevəʳ/ *adj* **1** quick at learning and understanding; having or showing a quick, able, and effective mind; INTELLIGENT: *the cleverest girl in the class* | *a clever idea* **2** skilful in using the hands or body: *clever with his hands|at making things* **3** *infml* effective and easy to use or handle: *What a clever little device!* **4** *infml derog* having a quick mind but without seriousness, good judgment, or sincerity: *a clever lawyer's tricks* | *Don't try and get clever with me!* **5 too clever by half** *infml, esp. BrE* too sure of one's cleverness, in a way that offends people —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

▷ USAGE In Britain, **bright** and **smart** (which is sometimes derogatory) are informal words for **clever**: *She's one of the* **brightest** *in the class.* | *He tries too hard to be* **smart**. But in the US, **clever** is often derogatory and **smart** and **bright** are used more often and approvingly: *the* **smartest** *boy in school* | *She's very* **bright**. In both countries **quick** is an informal word meaning **bright** and able to learn fast: *Her children are very* **quick. Brainy** (*infml*) means very **bright**, often at academic work, but sometimes suggests that someone is rather odd and does not have a very good social life: *a* **brainy** *professor who's hopeless at parties.* **Brilliant** is a very strong word meaning extremely **bright**: *He's a brilliant mathematician. —see also* GENIUS (USAGE), INTELLIGENT (USAGE)◁

clever clogs /ˈ·· ·/ *n BrE infml* (an expression used to someone when they have just made what they think is a very clever remark or suggestion): *"Put it in the other way up." – "I tried that an hour ago. Come on, clever clogs, you can do better than that!"*

clever dick /ˈ·· ·/ *n infml, esp. BrE* someone who annoys others by trying to sound clever

clew /kluː/ *n tech* (a metal circle fastened to) the lower corner of a ship's sail

Cli·burn /ˈklaɪbɜːn‖-bɜːrn/**, Van** (1934–) an American piano player of classical music

cli·ché /ˈkliːʃeɪ‖kliːˈʃeɪ/ *n derog* an expression or idea used so often that it has lost much of its expressive force: *I know it's a bit of a cliché, but she means everything to me.* —compare PLATITUDE —**clichéd** *adj* : *a clichéd remark*

click[1] /klɪk/ *n* **1** a slight short sound: *The key turned with a click.* | *the click of heels as she ran down the stairs* **2** *tech* a sound made, as in some African languages, by pressing the tongue against the teeth or the roof of the mouth and then moving it rapidly away

click[2] *v* **1** [T] to strike or move with a click: *She clicked her fingers in time to the music.* | *The soldier clicked his heels together.* **2** [I] to make a click, esp. as a result of movement: *The bolt clicked into place.* | *The door clicked shut.* **3** [I (**with**)] *infml* to suddenly become clear or be understood: *It suddenly clicked that we had been talking about two completely different people.* **4** [I (**with**)] *infml* to be a success: *a film that really clicked (with the public)* | *John and Anne clicked (with each other) as soon as they met.* —see also **click into place** (PLACE[1] (13))

cli·ent /ˈklaɪənt/ *n* **1** a person who gets help and advice from a professional person, e.g. a lawyer **2** a person who buys goods or services: *She's one of my most valued clients.* | *a prostitute's clients* —see CUSTOMER (USAGE)

cli·en·tele /ˌkliːənˈtel‖ˌklaɪənˈtel, ˌkliː-/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] *often pomp* those who use the services of a business, shop, professional person, etc.: *Our clientele has|have always favoured quality rather than quantity.* | *a very select clientele*

client state /ˌ·· ˈ·◂/ *n* [(**of**)] a country which is dependent upon the support and protection of another larger and more powerful country —compare SATELLITE (3)

cliff /klɪf/ *n* a high very steep face of rock, ice, etc., esp. on a coast: *climbers clinging to the cliff face* —see also WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER

Cliff infml for Cliff RICHARD

Cliff, Jimmy (1948–) an internationally famous Jamaican singer-songwriter of REGGAE music

cliff·hang·er /ˈklɪfˌhæŋəʳ/ *n infml* **1** a competition or fight of which the result is in doubt until the very end: *The election was a real cliffhanger.* **2** (esp. on the radio and on television) a play or story of adventure, performed in parts which each end with an exciting moment of uncertainty about what will happen next

Cliff's Notes /ˌ· ˈ·/ in the US, a small book which makes a short general statement of the main points of a work of literature, and explains it. Students sometimes read them instead of reading the works of literature themselves —see also CRIB[2]

Clift /klɪft/**, Montgomery** (1920–66) an American theatre and film actor well-known for his good looks and for acting ROMANTIC parts

Clif·ton Su·spen·sion Bridge /ˌklɪftən səˈspenʃən ˌbrɪdʒ/ [*the*] a very high SUSPENSION BRIDGE over the River Avon in Bristol

cli·mac·ter·ic /klaɪˈmæktərɪk, ˌklaɪmækˈterɪk/ *n* a point in life when important changes take place in the human body, such as the MENOPAUSE

cli·mac·tic /klaɪˈmæktɪk/ *adj* of or forming a CLIMAX: *a climactic car chase* —compare CLIMATIC

cli·mate /ˈklaɪmɪt/ *n* **1** the average weather conditions at a particular place over a period of years: *a tropical climate* —compare WEATHER[1] **2** the general feelings or opinions of a group of people at a particular time: *the present political climate* | *a climate of unrest*

cli·mat·ic /klaɪˈmætɪk/ *adj* of climate: *climatic conditions* —compare CLIMACTIC —~**ally** /kli/ *adv*

cli·ma·tol·o·gy /ˌklaɪməˈtɒlədʒi‖-ˈtɑː-/ *n* [U] the science that studies climate

cli·max[1] /ˈklaɪmæks/ *n* **1** the most exciting, important, or effective part in a story, experience, set of events, etc., which usu. comes near the end: *The climax of the film is a brilliant car chase.* | *The election campaign reached its climax last night, with a televised debate between the two candidates.* —see also ANTICLIMAX **2** the highest point of sexual pleasure; ORGASM

climax[2] *v* [I (**in**)] to come to a climax: *a life of service to the nation, climaxing in her appointment as President*

climb[1] /klaɪm/ *v* **1** [T] to go up towards the top of: *They climbed the hill.* | *The little train climbed the mountainside slowly.* **2** [I] to rise or slope upwards continuously: *The plane|the road climbed steeply.* | *The sun climbed steadily in the sky.* | *The value of imports has climbed* (=increased) *sharply in the past year.* | (fig.) *He climbed to power slowly but surely.* **3** [I;T] to go up, through, into,

or out of, etc., usu. moving from a lower to a higher position, by using the hands and feet: *to climb a ladder|a tree | The old lady climbs (up) the stairs with difficulty.| She climbed into the lifeboat|onto the table|out of the window. | We climbed down the side of the cliff.* **4** [I **(up)**;T] (of a plant) to grow upwards along (a supporting surface): *I have several climbing plants in the garden.* **5** [I+**into, out of**] *infml* to get into or out of clothing quickly or with effort: *The firemen climbed into their uniforms.* **6 go climbing** to climb hills or mountains as a sport: *We went climbing in the Alps last year.*

climb down *phr v* [I] *infml* to admit that one has been wrong or has made a mistake esp. so as to make a difficult situation easier —**climb-down** /ˈ· ·/ *n* : *His last-minute climb-down saved the country from war.*

climb[2] *n* [*usu. sing.*] **1** an act of climbing or a journey made by climbing: *The climb down was even harder than the climb up. | the minister's climb to power* **2** a place to be climbed; very steep slope: *There was a steep climb on the road out of town.*

climb·er /ˈklaɪməʳ/ *n* a person or thing that climbs: *This plant is a good climber. | a famous mountain climber*

climb·ing frame /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *BrE* ‖ **jungle gym, monkey bars** *AmE*– *n* a large frame made of bars for children to climb on

climb·ing i·ron /ˈ·· ··/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] a CRAMPON

clime /klaɪm/ *n poet for* CLIMATE: *sunny southern climes*

clinch[1] /klɪntʃ/ *v* **1** [T] *infml* to settle (a business matter or an agreement) firmly: *The two businessmen* **clinched the deal** *quickly. | The offer of more money clinched it for her and she accepted the job.* **2** [I] (of two people) to hold each other tightly with the arms, esp. when fighting **3** [T] to fix (a nail) in place by bending the point over

clinch[2] *n* [S] the position of two people when holding each other tightly with the arms: *The two fighters|lovers were locked in a clinch.*

clinch·er /ˈklɪntʃəʳ/ *n infml* a last point, fact, or remark which decides an argument

cline /klaɪn/ *n tech* (esp. in grammar) something that changes gradually, like a slope rather than like stairs; CONTINUUM

Cline, Patsy (1932–63) an American popular music singer who died in an air crash. A film based on her life was called *Sweet Dreams*, which was also the title of one of her songs.

cling /klɪŋ/ *v* **clung** /klʌŋ/ [I **(to)**] **1** to hold tightly; refuse to go or let go; stick firmly: *His wet shirt clung to his body.| The smell of cigarette smoke tends to cling. | They clung to one another for comfort. |* (fig.) *She still clings to the belief that her son is alive.* **2** to stay very near; remain too close, esp. because of lack of confidence: *a little child who clings to his mother*

cling·film /ˈklɪŋfɪlm/ *esp. BrE* ‖ **plastic wrap, Saran wrap** *AmE tdmk*– *n* [U] a thin transparent plastic put round foods to keep them fresh

clin·ic /ˈklɪnɪk/ *n* **1 a** *esp. BrE* a building or part of a hospital where usu. specialized medical treatment and advice is given to OUTPATIENTS: *a family-planning clinic | the ear, nose, and throat clinic* **b** *AmE* a building, often a part of a hospital, where treatment is given at a lower cost or free **2** an occasion when treatment is given at a clinic: *Is the clinic being held today?* —compare SURGERY (2) **3** a group of doctors who work together and share the same offices: *Go to Dr Jones' clinic.* **4** an occasion in a hospital when medical students are taught by watching the treatment of sick people **5** a meeting held by a skilled or professional person to which people bring their problems: *an MP's weekly clinic for his constituents*

clin·i·cal /ˈklɪnɪkəl/ *adj* **1** of or connected with a clinic or hospital **2** [A] (of medical teaching) given in a hospital and using sick people as examples: *clinical training | clinical medicine* **3** appearing not to be influenced by personal feelings; cold; DETACHED: *his clinical attitude towards his divorce* —~**ly** /kli/ *adv*

clinical ther·mom·e·ter /ˌ··· ·ˈ··/ *n tech* a THERMOMETER for measuring the temperature of the human body

clink[1] /klɪŋk/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) make a slight high sound like that of pieces of glass lightly hitting each other: *They clinked their glasses together to toast the bride and groom.* —**clink** *n* [S] : *the clink of glasses*

clink[2] *n* [*the*+S] *sl* prison: *He's in the clink.*

clink·er /ˈklɪŋkəʳ/ *n* [C;U] (a lump of) the partly burnt matter left after coal has been burned; (a piece of) SLAG

clinker-built /ˌ·· ˈ·◂/ *adj tech* (of a boat or ship) made from boards or plates whose bottom edges cover the top edges of the next lower boards or plates

Clin·ton /ˈklɪntən/, **Hil·lary Rod·ham** /ˈhɪləri ˈrɒdəm‖ˈrɑː-/ (1947-) the wife of President Bill Clinton, who was named by him in 1993 to be in charge of changing the US health care system

Clinton, William J. (Bill) (1946–) the 42nd president of the US (1992–). During the 1992 election campaign, newspapers questioned whether he had tried to avoid serving in the Vietnam War, but Clinton attracted voters with his thorough plans for what he would do as president and his concern for ordinary people's problems. — see colour picture on page 950

clip[1] /klɪp/ *n* **1** (*often in comb.*) any of various kinds of small plastic or metal objects used for holding things tightly together or in place: *Fasten these bills together with a paper clip, please. | a tie clip | a hair clip* **2** a container in or fastened to a gun, from which bullets can be rapidly passed into the gun for firing

clip[2] *v* **-pp-** [I+*adv|prep*;T+*obj*+*adv|prep*] to (cause to) fasten onto something with a clip: *Do your earrings clip on? | Clip these sheets of paper together|onto this board.*

clip[3] *v* **-pp-** [T] **1** to cut with scissors or another sharp instrument, esp. in order to make shorter or neater: *I must clip the hedge. | We clipped 50 sheep today.* (=cut off their wool) | *The guard on the train clipped our tickets.* **2** [+*obj*+*adv|prep*] *infml* to hit with a short quick blow: *She clipped him round the ear.* **3 clip someone's wings** to prevent someone from being as active or powerful as before

clip[4] *n* **1** [C] an act of clipping (CLIP[3] (1)): *Give the hedge a clip.* **2** [C] something clipped, such as **a** a short piece of a longer film: *They showed a clip from her new film on TV last night.* **b** *tech* the quantity of wool cut from a FLOCK (a group) of sheep at one time **c** *esp. AmE* a newspaper CUTTING **3** [C] *infml* a short quick blow: *I gave him a* **clip on the ear.** **4** [S] *infml* a fast speed: *We moved off at a good clip.*

clip·board /ˈklɪpbɔːd‖-bɔːrd/ *n* a small board with a clip at the top so that sheets of writing paper can be held firmly in place

clip joint /ˈ· ·/ *n derog sl* a dishonest business, esp. a restaurant or NIGHTCLUB, that regularly charges too much

clip-on /ˈ· ·/ *adj* [A] that can be fastened to something with a clip: *clip-on earrings | a clip-on tie*

clipped /klɪpt/ *adj* **1** (of a way of speaking) with words pronounced quickly and rather sharply **2** *tech* (of a word) shortened by having a part left out: *"Ad" is a clipped form of "advertisement".*

clip·per /ˈklɪpəʳ/ *n* a fast sailing ship used in former times, esp. for travelling long distances —see picture at SAIL

clip·pers /ˈklɪpəz‖-ərz/ *n* [P] (*often in comb.*) a tool with two blades used for cutting the nails or hair, and also for HEDGES, wire, etc. —see PAIR (USAGE)

clip·pie /ˈklɪpi/ *n BrE old-fash sl* a person, esp. a woman, employed to take the passengers' payments on a bus

clip·ping /ˈklɪpɪŋ/ *n* a piece cut off or out of something: *nail clippings | grass clippings |* (*esp. AmE*) *a newspaper clipping*

clique /kliːk/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] *derog* a closely united usu. small group of people who do not allow others easily to join their group

cli·quish /ˈkliːkɪʃ/ also **cli·quey** /ˈkliːki/– *adj derog* of or like a clique; EXCLUSIVE —~**ness** *n* [U]

clit·o·ris /ˈklɪtərɨs/ *n* a small organ at the front of the VULVA that is a centre of sexual sensation in women —**-ral** *adj*

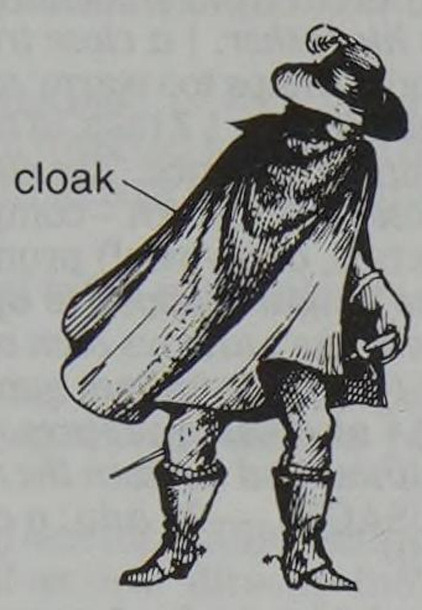
Clive of In·di·a /ˌklaɪv əv ˈɪndiə/ (1725–74) a British soldier and STATESMAN (= someone with a large part in the government of a state) who broke French power in India, became governor of Bengal state and improved British management there. The British typically see him as a ROMANTIC figure in Arabic dress who saved the Bengalis from their own leader.

Cllr *BrE abbrev. for* COUNCILLOR

Clo *abbrev. for* CLOSE[5] (2) (used in street names)

cloak[1] /kləʊk/ *n* **1** a loose outer garment, usu. without SLEEVES, which is fastened under the throat, covers most of the body, and is sometimes worn instead of a coat –compare CAPE[1] **2** something which covers, hides, or keeps secret: *His friendly behaviour was a cloak for his evil intentions.*

cloak



cloak[2] *v* [T (**with, in**)] to cover, hide, or keep secret (ideas, facts, intentions, etc.): *cloaked in secrecy|mystery*

cloak-and-dag·ger /ˌ· · ˈ··/ *adj* [A] full of exciting mystery and secrecy: *He had been involved in cloak-and-dagger operations for the secret services.*

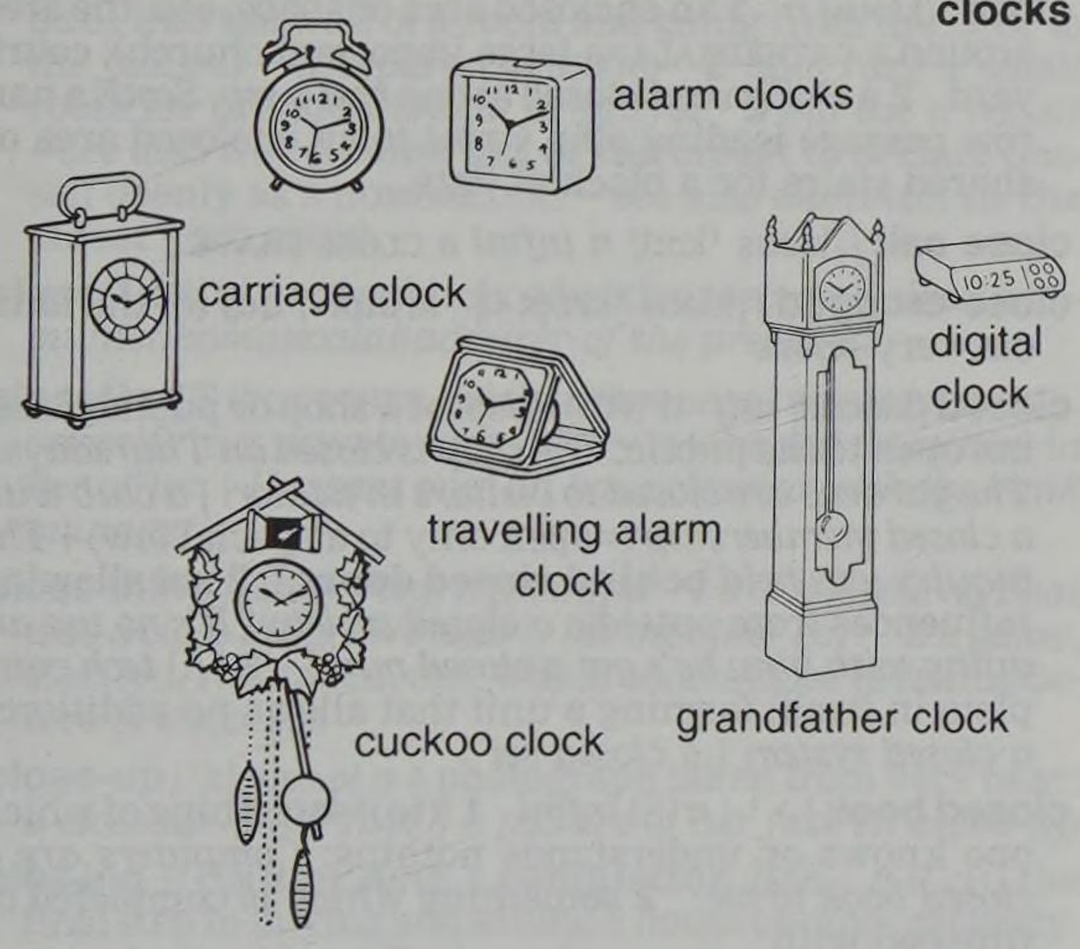
cloak·room /ˈkləʊkrʊm, -ruːm/ *n* **1** also **checkroom, coatroom, coat check** *AmE* – a room, e.g. in a theatre, where hats, coats, etc., can be left for a short time **2** *euph, esp. BrE* a TOILET, esp. in a public building

clob·ber[1] /ˈklɒbəʳ‖ˈklɑː-/ *v* [T] *sl* **1** to strike or attack severely and repeatedly: *I'll clobber you if you don't do what you're told. | The government's going to clobber the unions if they won't agree.* **2** to defeat completely: *They were absolutely clobbered in last night's game.*

clobber[2] *n* [U] *sl, esp. BrE* **1** the belongings that one carries around with one: *my fishing clobber* **2** *old-fash* clothes

cloche /klɒʃ‖kləʊʃ/ *n* **1** a glass or transparent plastic cover put over young plants to protect them **2** a close-fitting bell-shaped woman's hat, popular esp. in the 1920s

clocks



clock[1] /klɒk‖klɑːk/ *n* **1** [C] an instrument for measuring and showing time that is not worn on the body: *The clock in the living room is (running) a few minutes fast|slow. | The clock struck one. | I set my alarm clock for 6.30. | We met under the Town Hall clock. | the face|hands of a clock | a digital clock* –see USAGE **2** [*the*+S] *infml* **a** a MILEOMETER: *a car with 10,000 miles on the clock* **b** a SPEEDOMETER **3 against the clock: a** under pressure, in order to complete something before a certain time: *We're working against the clock to finish the report by Friday.* **b** (in sport, etc.) timed by a STOPWATCH: *The jump-off will be against the clock.* **4 around/round the clock** all day and all night without stopping: *We worked around the clock to finish the job.* –see also ROUND-THE-CLOCK **5 put the clock back** ‖ also **set the clock back** *AmE:* **a** (in countries which officially change the time at the beginning of winter and summer) to change the time shown on a clock to a time one or two hours earlier **b** to set aside modern laws, ideas, practices, etc., and return to those of an earlier period: *The government's plans for education will put the clock back 20 years.* **6 put the clock on/forward** also **set the clock ahead** *AmE*– (in countries which officially change the time at the beginning of winter and summer) to change the time shown on a clock to a time one or two hours later: *In Britain they put the clock on an hour in spring.* –see also BRITISH SUMMER TIME, DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME **7 watch the clock** *derog* to think continually of how soon the day's work will end: *a bad worker who's always watching the clock | a clock-watcher* –see also O'CLOCK, BIOLOGICAL CLOCK, 24 HOUR CLOCK, CLOCK-WATCHING

▷ USAGE If a **clock** or **watch** says 11.50 at 12 o'clock, then it is (10 minutes) **slow;** if it says 12.05, it is (5 minutes) **fast.** If it gets faster every day it **gains** (time); if it gets slower every day it **loses** (time). When you put it to the right time you **set** it: *I* **set** *my watch by the radio.* (=by listening to the radio time signal) –see also O'CLOCK (USAGE), TIME[4] (USAGE), TO[1] (USAGE)◁

clock[2] *v* [T] **1** to record the time taken by (someone) to do (something), using a STOPWATCH: *She was clocked at 59 seconds for the first lap.* **2** *infml* to show or record on a SPEEDOMETER, MILEOMETER, etc.: *We clocked 100 mph down the motorway.* **3** *BrE sl* to hit (someone) **4** *BrE sl* to see

clock in/on *phr v* [I] **1** to record the time when one arrives at work, usu. on a special card. People who have to clock in when they arrive at work are usu. BLUE-COLLAR workers. **2** to arrive at work: *We usually clock in at 9 o'clock.*

clock out/off *phr v* [I] **1** to record the time when one leaves work, usu. on a special card. People who have to clock out when they leave work are usu. BLUE-COLLAR workers. **2** to leave work

clock up sthg. *phr v* [T] *infml* **1** to record (a distance travelled, a speed reached, points won, etc.): *We clocked up 1000 miles coming here.* **2** to succeed in getting; gain: *The team has clocked up six victories since the season began.*

clock[3] *n* a decorative pattern on the side of a sock or STOCKING

clock-ra·di·o /ˌ· ˈ···/ *n* a RADIO ALARM

clock tow·er /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a usu. four-sided tower often forming part of a building, such as a church, and with a clock on each of the sides, near the top

clock-watch·ing /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* [U] the act of watching the time very carefully when one is at work because one is waiting to go home –see also **watch the clock** (CLOCK[1])

clock·wise /ˈklɒk-waɪz‖ˈklɑːk-/ *adj, adv* in the direction in which the hands of a clock move: *Turn the lid clockwise if you want to fasten it tightly. | a clockwise movement of the lid* –opposite **anticlockwise** *BrE*, **counterclockwise** *AmE*

clock·work /ˈklɒk-wɜːk‖ˈklɑːk-wɜːrk/ *n* [U] **1** machinery that can usu. be wound up with a key, and that is used esp. in clocks and toys: *The children played with their clockwork trains.* **2 like clockwork** smoothly and without trouble: *The arrangements went ahead like clockwork.* **3 regular as clockwork** in a completely regular way: *He visits us every Friday, regular as clockwork.*

Clockwork Or·ange /ˌ·· ˈ··/, **A** a book by Anthony Burgess, later made into a film, about an imaginary future in which there is a lot of violence and a government with very strong power over people

clod /klɒd‖klɑːd/ *n* **1** a lump or mass, esp. of clay or earth –see picture at PIECE **2** *infml* a stupid person; fool

clod·dish /ˈklɒdɪʃ‖ˈklɑːd-/ *adj infml* like a CLOD (2): *clod-dish ignorance* – ~**ly** *adv* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

clod·hop·per /ˈklɒdˌhɒpəʳ‖ˈklɑːdˌhɑː-/ *n* **1** an awkward person with rough manners **2** [*usu. pl.*] *humor* a big heavy strong shoe

clog[1] /klɒg‖klɑːg/ *n* **1** [*usu. pl.*] a kind of shoe that either has a thick wooden bottom (SOLE) or is completely made from one piece of wood –see PAIR (USAGE), and see picture at SHOE **2** something that makes movement or action difficult, esp. a heavy block of wood fastened to an animal's leg to stop it wandering –see also CLEVER CLOGS

clog[2] *v* **-gg-** [I;T (UP, **with**)] to (cause to) become blocked or filled so that movement or activity is very difficult: *The pipe's clogged with grease. | The road to the airport is clogged with traffic. | Don't clog your memory (up) with useless information.*

clog dance /ˈ· ·/ *n* a kind of COUNTRY DANCE in which the dancers wear clogs

cloi·son·né /klwɑːˈzɒneɪ‖ˌklɔɪzənˈeɪ/ *n* [U] decorative work in which different colours of ENAMEL (=a glasslike substance often used for covering metal) are kept apart by thin metal bands

clois·ter[1] /ˈklɔɪstəʳ/ *n* **1** [C] also **cloisters** *pl.*– a covered passage which has open archways on one side facing into an open square garden or courtyard, and which usu. forms part of a church, college, MONASTERY, or CONVENT **2** [*the*+S] (the peaceful life of) a CONVENT or MONASTERY

cloister[2] *v* [T] to shut (esp. oneself) away from the world in or as if in a CONVENT or MONASTERY: *a scientist who cloisters himself in his laboratory | He had led a cloistered existence and had little experience of ordinary life.*

clone /kləʊn/ *n* **1** *tech* the descendant of a single plant or animal, produced nonsexually from any one cell, and with exactly the same form as the parent **2** *infml* a person or thing that seems to be a copy of someone or something else: *He's got no originality – he's just a David Bowie clone.* –compare IDENTIKIT, LOOK-A-LIKE **3** a microcomputer (=a small computer) that can use SOFTWARE that is really made for another company's computers: *The new computer is yet another IBM clone.* **clone** *v* [T]

clop /klɒp‖klɑːp/ *v* **-pp-** [I (**along**)] to move making a sound like horses' hooves (HOOF) hitting a hard surface –**clop** *n* [S]

close[1] /kləʊz/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) shut: *Close the windows|the gate. | Close your eyes and go to sleep. | The door closed behind me as I went out.* **2** [I;T] to (cause to) stop being open to the public: *What time does the bank|the park close? | The shop closes for lunch.* **3** [I;T (DOWN)] to (cause to) stop operating or providing services, esp. without the intention of starting again: *The firm has decided to close (down) its London branch. | Hundreds of jobs were lost when the factory closed. | They may be forced to close the local hospital.* **4** [I;T] to come to an end or bring to an end: *The conference closed with a short speech by the organizer. | to close one's account with a bank | He scored a goal in the closing minutes of the game.* **5** [T] to settle (a matter); come to an agreement about: *The question is now closed and there will be no further discussion. | She was promoted after* **closing a deal** *worth £2 million.* –see also CLOSING **6** [I;T] to (cause to) come together: *His arms closed tightly round her. | That wound will soon close (up).* **7** [I+*adv|prep*] (of business shares, CURRENCY, etc.) to be worth a particular amount at the end of a day's trading, e.g. on the STOCK EXCHANGE: *The pound closed at $1.49 last night. | The company's shares closed down|closed lower after heavy selling.* –see OPEN (USAGE)

close (sthg. ↔) **down** *phr v* [I;T] **a** (of a radio or television station) to stop broadcasting at the end of the day **b** to cause (a radio or television station) to stop broadcasting at the end of the day –see also CLOSE[1] (2), CLOSEDOWN

close in *phr v* [I (**on, upon**)] to surround gradually and usu. from all sides, esp. in a threatening way: *The people were trapped when the enemy army began to close in (on them). | (fig.) Night is closing in.*

close (sthg. ↔) **out** *phr v* [I;T] *AmE* (of a business) to try to get rid of (all one's goods) by selling them at reduced prices

close (sbdy./sthg. ↔) **up** *phr v* [I;T] to (cause to) come nearer each other or draw together: *Close up the ranks! | The cut on her arm soon closed up.*

close with sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** *BrE* to agree with (someone) or to (something): *The businessman quickly closed with the offer|closed with the inspector.* **2** *lit* to begin to fight: *The two armies closed with each other.*

close[2] /kləʊs/ *adj* **1** [(**to**)] near; not far away in space or time: *The church is close to the shops. | He was shot at close range. | The exams are getting very close|are getting* **too close for comfort**; *I must do some work for them. | Her parents live* **close at hand**. | (fig.) *The question of women's rights is a subject close to her heart.* **2** near in relationship, friendship, or degree of connection: *He's a close relative|one of my closest friends. | She and her mother have always been very close. | He has close links with terrorist groups. | Sources close to the government are predicting an election.* **3 a** tight; with little or no space: *close stitches | You need a magnifying glass to read such close print.* **b** very near to the surface: *The barber gave him a close shave.* –see also CLOSE SHAVE **4** thorough and careful: *We kept a* **close watch** *on the prisoners. | After close questioning, the police released the suspect. | His work does not bear close inspection|scrutiny. | We'll have to* **keep a close eye** *on his work from now on.* **5** not very different from an original: *He bears a close resemblance to his father. | a close translation* **6** without fresh air, and perhaps too warm; STUFFY: *It's very close in here; open the window.* **7** (esp. of a competition) decided by a very small difference: *The election results were very close. | a close finish|match* –compare NARROW[1] (3) **8** *tech* (in PHONETICS, of a vowel) pronounced with little space above the tongue –opposite **open** **9** [F (**about**)] *infml* secretive: *She's always been very close about her past life.* **10** [F (**with**)] *infml* not generous; STINGY: *close with money* **11 at close quarters** very near or near together: *The witness had not seen the man at close quarters.* –see NEAR (USAGE) – ~**ly** *adv*: *a closely guarded secret* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

close[3] /kləʊs/ *adv* **1** near: *Don't come too close! | Although he came very close, he did not win the race.* [+*adv|prep*] *They live close by. | We live close to the church. | They sat close together. | She followed close behind.* **2 close, but no cigar** *AmE* (said when someone has done something that was almost, but not quite, effective, right, or successful) **3 close on** (esp. before numbers) almost: *It happened close on 50 years ago. | Close on 90 people came.* **4 close to: a** almost; nearly: *The cost was close to $1 million. | He came close to losing his temper.* **b** (ˌkləʊz ˈtuː) from very close: *He looks much older when you see him close to.* **5 close to home** near the (usu. unpleasant) truth: *Everyone felt uncomfortable because his remarks were a little too close to home.* **6** *esp. BrE* **(sail) close to the wind** (to be) near to dishonesty or improper behaviour

close[4] /kləʊz/ *n* [S] *fml* the end of an activity or of a period of time: *at the close of play|of the 19th century | As the evening* **came|drew to a close,** *the guests went home. | The chairman* **brought** *the meeting* **to a close.**

close[5] /kləʊs/ *n* **1** an enclosed area or space, esp. the area around a CATHEDRAL (=a large important church); courtyard **2 a** *BrE* a road closed at one end **b** *esp. ScotE* a narrow passage leading off a street to an enclosed area or shared stairs for a block of flats

close call /ˌkləʊs ˈkɔːl/ *n infml* a CLOSE SHAVE

close-cropped /ˌkləʊs ˈkrɒpt◂‖-ˈkrɑːpt◂/ *adj* (of the hair) cut very short

closed /kləʊzd/ *adj* **1** [(**to**)] (esp. of a shop or public place) not open to the public: *The shop is closed on Thursdays.| The gardens are closed to visitors in winter. | a club with a closed membership* (=open only to a special few) | *The inquiry was held* **behind closed doors**. **2** not allowing influences from outside: *a closed society | It's no use arguing with him; he's got a closed mind.* **3** [A] *tech* complete in itself; forming a unit that allows no additions: *a closed system | a closed set*

closed book /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* [S] *infml* **1** [(**to**)] something of which one knows or understands nothing: *Computers are a closed book to me.* **2** something which is completed or finished with

closed cir·cuit tel·e·vi·sion /ˌ· ˌ·· ˈ····, ˌ· ˌ·· ··ˈ··/ also **CCTV** *abbrev. n* [U] a system used to protect shops, banks, etc., by using cameras to send pictures to a number of television sets: *This building is protected by closed circuit television.*

closed-loop re·cy·cling sys·tem /ˌ· · ·ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a method of providing people who are living in a SPACE STATION with around 5 kilograms of fresh water each every day by reusing all the waste liquids on board

close·down /ˈkləʊzdaʊn/ *n* **1** [C] (in a factory, business, etc.) a general stopping of work; SHUTDOWN **2** [C;U] *esp. BrE* the end of a period of broadcasting –see also CLOSE **down**

closed pri·ma·ry /ˌ· ˈ···/ *n* an election in the US in which voters may vote only for CANDIDATES (=people who are trying to get political office) of the party to which they belong, in order to choose who will represent the party in the final election. Most states hold closed primaries so that Democrats choose the Democratic NOMINEE and Republicans the Republican one. –compare OPEN PRIMARY

closed sea·son /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n AmE for* CLOSE SEASON

closed shop /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *n* a place of work where all the workers must belong to a particular TRADE UNION. In the 1960s and 1970s there were a lot of closed shops in Britain and in the US, but in the 1980s the power of trade unions was reduced by the government and now there are not so many.

Close En·count·ers of the Third Kind /ˌ· ·ˌ·· · · ˌ· ˈ·/ a 1977 American SCIENCE FICTION film directed by Steven Spielberg which has meetings with ALIENS (an encounter of the third kind) as its subject

close·fist·ed /ˌkləʊsˈfɪstɨd◂/ *adj infml* not generous with money; STINGY

close-grained /ˌkləʊs ˈgreɪnd◂/ *adj* (of wood) having a fine natural pattern (GRAIN (4)), esp. having narrow yearly rings

close-hauled /ˌkləʊs ˈhɔːld◂/ *adj tech* (of a sailing ship) having the sails arranged to sail as near directly into the wind as possible

close-knit /ˌkləʊs ˈnɪt◂/ also **close·ly-knit** /ˌ·· ˈ·◂/– *adj* tightly connected or united by social, political, or religious beliefs and activities: *a close-knit family|community*

close·out /ˈkləʊzaʊt/ *n AmE* an occasion when a business tries to get rid of all its goods by selling them at reduced prices –see also CLOSE **out**

close sea·son /ˈkləʊs ˌsiːzən/ also **closed season** *AmE*– *n* **1** the period of each year when certain animals, birds, or fish may not by law be killed for sport: *the close season for fishing* –opposite **open season** **2** *BrE* the summer period when football teams do not play any important matches

close-set /ˌkləʊs ˈset◂/ *adj* set close together: *close-set eyes*

close shave /ˌkləʊs ˈʃeɪv/ also **close call**– *n infml* a situation in which something dangerous or very unpleasant is only just avoided: *That was a close shave – that car nearly hit us!*

clos·et[1] /ˈklɒzɨt‖ˈklɑː-, ˈklɔː-/ *n* **1** *esp. AmE* a cupboard built into the wall of a room and going from the floor to the CEILING –compare CUPBOARD **2** *now rare* a small room for private thought or prayer **3** *old use* a TOILET –see also WC **4 come out of the closet** to declare oneself openly as a HOMOSEXUAL –see also **skeleton in the closet** (SKELETON)

closet[2] *adj* [A] not publicly admitted; secret: *a closet communist|homosexual|admirer of the president*

closet[3] *v* [T (TOGETHER, **with**) *often pass.*] to enclose (esp. oneself) in a private room: *They're closeted (together) in her office.* | *He spent over an hour closeted with the bank manager.*

close thing /ˌkləʊs ˈθɪŋ/ *n* [S] *infml* **1** a CLOSE SHAVE: *That was a close thing! We nearly hit the other car!* **2** a game, election, risk taken, etc., which comes close to failing before it succeeds

close-up /ˈkləʊs ʌp/ *n* a photograph taken from very near: *a close-up of her face* | *a picture of her face* **in close-up**

clos·ing /ˈkləʊzɪŋ/ *AmE* ‖ **completion** *BrE*– *n* [C;U] the final step in buying and selling a house or other property: *Our closing is next Friday.* | *I was amazed at all the* **closing costs** *that no one had mentioned before.*

closing pri·ces /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [P] the buying and selling prices of STOCKS[1](3) and SHARES[1](2) when the STOCK EXCHANGE finishes business for the day –see also CLOSE[1] (7)

closing time /ˈ·· ·/ *n* [C;U] *BrE* the time, fixed by law, at which a PUB must close and stop serving drinks

clo·sure /ˈkləʊʒəʳ/ *n* [C;U] (an example of) the act of closing, esp. of a business or organization which has to stop operating: *Lack of money forced the closure of the company.* | *They are campaigning against hospital closures.*

clot[1] /klɒt‖klɑːt/ *n* **1** a half-solid mass or lump, usu. formed from a liquid, esp. blood: *a blood clot in his leg* **2** *sl, esp. BrE* a stupid person; fool

clot[2] *v* **-tt-** [I;T] to (cause to) form into clots: *a drug to prevent the blood from clotting* –see also CLOTTED CREAM

cloth /klɒθ‖klɔːθ/ *n* **cloths** /klɒθs‖klɔːðz, klɔːθs/ **1** [U] material made from wool, cotton, nylon, etc., by weaving, and used for making garments, coverings, etc.: *I need several metres of cloth to make a long dress.* **2** [C] (*often in comb.*) a piece of this used for a special purpose: *Clean the windows with a soft|damp cloth.* | *a dishcloth* | *a tablecloth* –see CLOTHES (USAGE) **3** [*the*+S] *fml or humor* the profession of being a priest: *a man of the cloth* (=a priest)

cloth cap /ˌ· ˈ·/ also **flat cap**– *n* a soft flat woollen cap with a stiff pointed piece at the front. The cloth cap is sometimes used to represent the idea of the WORKING CLASS in Britain.



cloth cap

clothe /kləʊð/ *v* [T] **1** to cover with clothes or provide clothes for: *They have to work hard to feed and clothe their large family.* | *Her partially-clothed body was found in a wood.* **2** *lit* to cover (something) as if with clothing: *Mist clothed the hills.* –see also CLAD

clothes /kləʊðz, kləʊz/ *n* [P] garments, such as trousers, dresses, shirts, and socks, that are worn to cover the body: *Put on your school clothes.* | *football clothes* | *a clothes brush* –see also PLAIN-CLOTHES

▷ USAGE Compare **clothes, cloth, material, clothing, garment,** and **dress**. **Clothes** is the usual word for things we wear: *She's got some beautiful* **clothes.** | **Clothes** are made from various kinds of **cloth** or **material,** such as wool or cotton: *How much* **cloth/material** *will I need to make a pair of trousers?* **Clothing** [U] is a more formal word for **clothes.** A **garment** [C] (rather formal) is a single article of **clothing.** A **dress** [C] is a kind of outer **garment** worn by women: *What a pretty* **dress** *she's wearing!,* but in certain expressions **dress** [U] is a particular type of **clothing:** *The men had to wear formal evening* **dress** *to go to the company dinner.* –see also DRESS (USAGE)◁

clothes bas·ket /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a large plastic basket for holding clothes ready for drying or ironing

clothes brush /ˈ· ·/ *n* a brush for removing FLUFF, dust, mud, etc. from clothes esp. coats, JACKETS, etc.

clothes hang·er /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a HANGER

clothes·horse /ˈkləʊðzhɔːs, ˈkləʊz-‖-hɔːrs/ *n* **1** a frame on which clothes are hung to dry, usu. indoors **2** *infml, derog, esp. AmE* a person who is very interested in clothes

clothes·line /ˈkləʊðzlaɪn, ˈkləʊz-/ *n* a rope or cord on which clothes are hung to dry, usu. outdoors

clothes peg /ˈ· ˌ·/ *BrE* ‖ **clothes·pin** /ˈkləʊðzˌpɪn, ˈkləʊz-/ *AmE*– *n* a small wooden or plastic instrument for holding wet washed clothes on a clothesline to dry –see picture at PEG

►CULTURAL NOTE If there is a bad smell, people sometimes joke about putting a clothes peg on their nose so that they will not be able to smell it.◄

cloth·i·er /ˈkləʊðiəʳ/ *n fml, becoming rare* a person who makes or sells men's clothes or material for clothes

cloth·ing /ˈkləʊðɪŋ/ *n* [U] *esp. fml* the garments, such as trousers, dresses, shirts, etc., worn together on different parts of the body: *an article of clothing* | *The staff at the chemical plant wear protective clothing.* | *food, clothing, and shelter* | *a clothing manufacturer* –see also **wolf in sheep's clothing** (WOLF[1]); see CLOTHES (USAGE)

clotted cream /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] thick cream made esp. in SW England by slowly heating milk and taking the cream from the top

clo·ture /ˈklɒʊtʃəʳ/ *n* (in US government) a way of ending argument over a BILL[2] and forcing a vote on it: *Senator Bradley tried to force cloture on the housing bill.*

cloud[1] /klaʊd/ *n* **1** [C;U] a white or grey mass floating in the sky in various shapes, which is formed from very small drops of water: *dark threatening storm clouds* | *fluffy white clouds* | *There's more cloud today than yesterday.* **2** [C (**of**)] a mass of dust, smoke, etc., which floats weightlessly in the air: *a cloud of smoke* | *a factory chimney emitting clouds of toxic gas* | *a* **mushroom cloud** *following a nuclear explosion* **3** [C (**of**)] a large number of small things moving in a mass; SWARM: *a cloud of mosquitoes* **4** [C] something that threatens or that causes unhappiness or anxiety: *The clouds of war were gathering.* | *I'm sorry to* **cast a cloud over** *the party, but there's been some bad news.* | *They're very happy now, but I'm afraid there's a* **cloud on the horizon;** *he has to go*

into the army soon. **5 I wandered lonely as a cloud** *quote* a phrase from a poem by William Wordsworth about daffodils —see DAFFODIL **6 under a cloud** out of favour or regarded with distrust: *He left his job under a cloud.* **7 up in the clouds** lost in private thoughts; in a DAYDREAM —see also **have one's head in the clouds** (HEAD¹ (30))

cloud² *v* **1** [I (OVER);T] to (cause to) become covered with clouds: *The sky clouded over and it started to rain.* | *The thick mist clouded the mountain tops.* | (fig.) *His face suddenly clouded over.* (=he began to look worried or upset) **2** [I;T (UP)] to (cause to) become less clear or transparent: *The steam has clouded the windows up.* | *You'll cloud the beer if you shake the barrel.* **3** [T] to make uncertain, unclear, or confused: *Age clouded his memory.* | *That's a separate argument and it will only cloud the issue.* **4** [T] to spoil: *The news of the accident clouded the whole day for them.*

cloud·bank /ˈklaʊdbæŋk/ *n* a thick mass of low cloud

cloud·burst /ˈklaʊdbɜːst‖-ɜːr-/ *n* a sudden very heavy fall of rain

cloud-capped /ˈ· ·/ *adj lit* (of mountains, hills, etc.) having the top surrounded by clouds

cloud-cuck·oo-land /ˌ· ˈ·· ·/ *n* [U] *derog, esp. BrE* (*sometimes caps.*) an imaginary place of unreal dreams and impossible perfection: *One of Mr Gyngell's employees said last night: "If he really thinks people rushing into work at 3 a.m. are going to start thinking positively about anything, he's living in cloud-cuckoo-land".*

cloud·less /ˈklaʊdləs/ *adj* without clouds; clear: *a cloudless sky|day*

cloud nine /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* **on cloud nine** *infml, esp. AmE* very happy: *He was on cloud nine after his wife had the baby.*

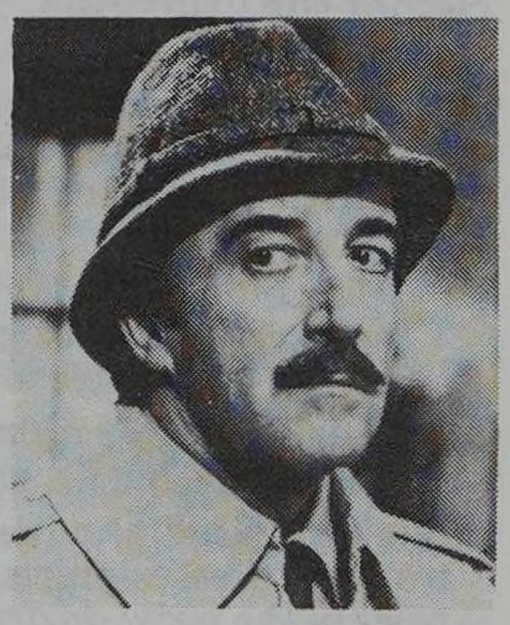
cloud seed·ing /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* [U] a way of causing it to rain or snow by dropping chemicals into clouds from an aircraft

cloud·y /ˈklaʊdi/ *adj* **1** full of clouds; OVERCAST: *a cloudy day|sky* **2** not clear or transparent: *cloudy beer* | *a cloudy recollection of the accident* —**-iness** *n* [U]

Clough /klʌf/, **Bri·an** /ˈbraɪən/ (1936–) an English footballer and manager

Clou·seau /ˈkluːzəʊ‖kluːˈzəʊ/, **Inspector Jacques** /ʒæk‖ʒɑːk/ a humorous character played by actor Peter Sellers in the Pink Panther films. He is a French policeman, always very serious, often wrong, and often causing accidents.

Inspector Clouseau



clout¹ /klaʊt/ *n sl* **1** [C] a hard blow or knock given with the hand or something held in the hand **2** [U] influence, esp. political influence: *Its massive export earnings give the company a lot of clout with the government.* **3** [C *often pl.*] *NEngE* an article of clothing

clout² *v* [T] *sl* to hit hard with the hand or something held in the hand

clove¹ /kləʊv/ *n* the dried flower of a tropical Asian plant, usu. used whole for giving a special taste to food

clove² *n* any of the small BULBS into which a larger bulb can be divided: *a clove of garlic*

clove³ *past tense of* CLEAVE

clove hitch /ˈ· ·, ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* a knot used for fastening a rope around a bar

clo·ven /ˈkləʊvən/ *past participle of* CLEAVE

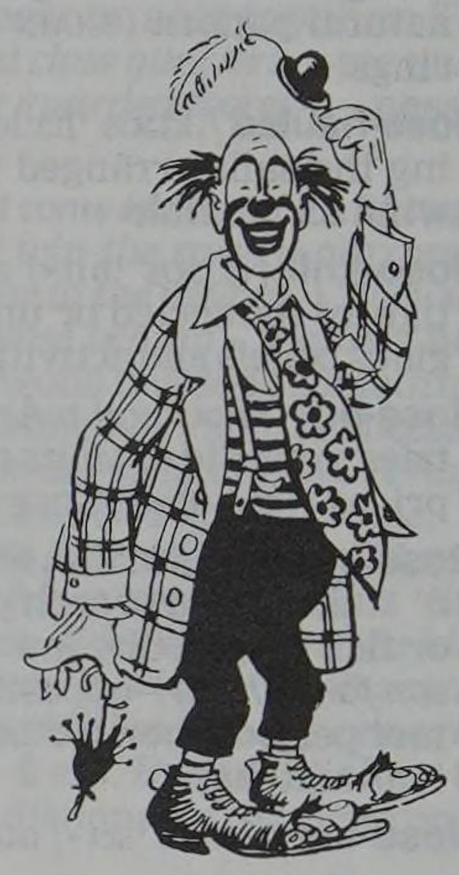
cloven hoof /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* an animal's foot which is divided into two parts, like the foot of a cow or sheep

clo·ver /ˈkləʊvəʳ/ *n* [U] **1** a small usu. three-leafed plant with pink, purple, or white flowers, often grown as food for cattle **2 in clover** *infml* living in comfort and having plenty of money: *We'll be in clover if you get that job.* —see also FOUR-LEAVED CLOVER

clo·ver·leaf /ˈkləʊvəliːf‖-vər-/ *n* **-leafs** *or* **-leaves** /liːvz/ **1** the leaf of a clover plant **2** the network of curved roads which connect two very important roads (esp. MOTORWAYS) where they cross each other

clown¹ /klaʊn/ *n* **1** an entertainer, esp. in the CIRCUS, who wears funny clothes and special MAKE-UP, often with a large red painted smile, and tries to make people laugh by jokes, tricks, or actions. It is often said that people who are clowns are really rather sad people, underneath all their cheerful make-up and acting. —see picture at COSTUME **2** *derog* a fool, esp. someone who continually behaves in a silly way; BUFFOON: *The teacher wondered which kid would be the* **class clown** *(esp. AmE) this year.*

clown



clown² *v* [I (ABOUT, AROUND)] *derog* to act stupidly; play the fool: *Will you children stop clowning and eat up your dinner!*

clown·ish /ˈklaʊnɪʃ/ *adj derog* of or like a CLOWN¹ (2): *clownish behaviour* —**~ly** *adv* —**~ness** *n* [U]

cloy /klɔɪ/ *v* [I] *fml* to become unpleasant through too much sweetness or through being taken in too great a quantity: *Chocolates start to cloy if you eat too many.* | *a love story of cloying sentimentality*

cloze test /ˈkləʊz test/ *n BrE* a test used in teaching, where the student must supply the missing words in a short piece of writing

club¹ /klʌb/ *n* **1** [+*sing.*/*pl. v*] an organization consisting of people who join together for a certain purpose, esp. sport or amusement: *an active member of the school's chess club* | *He joined the local stamp club.* | *The tennis club has|have organized a dance.* | (fig.) *countries that belong to the nuclear club* —see also COUNTRY CLUB, GOLF CLUB **2 a** a building where a club meets **b** a NIGHTCLUB **3** an association of people, usu. upper-class men or men connected with the Establishment, who like to meet together to relax and discuss things. The club usu. owns a building where members can eat, drink, and sometimes sleep. New members pay to join or are elected (ELECT) by other members. **4** a thick heavy stick, used as a weapon: *to brandish a club* **5** a specially shaped stick for hitting a ball in certain sports: *a golf club* —see picture at GOLF **6 a** a black three-leafed figure printed on a playing card **b** a card belonging to the SUIT (=set) of cards that have one or more of these figures printed on them: *I have four clubs in my hand.* | *the seven|king of clubs* —see CARDS (USAGE) and see picture at CARDS **7 in the club** *infml, esp. BrE* expecting a baby; PREGNANT **8 Join the club!** (said when other people are in the same situation): *"I've got a bad cold." "Join the club."* (=I've got one, too)

club² *v* **-bb-** [T] to beat or hit hard (as if) with a CLUB¹ (5): *He was clubbed to death with the butt of a gun.*

club together *phr v* [I] to share the cost of something with others: *We clubbed together to buy her a present.*

club·ba·ble /ˈklʌbəbəl/ *adj, BrE old-fash* likely to be a popular member of a club; SOCIABLE

club·bing /ˈklʌbɪŋ/ *n* [U] *BrE* the visiting of NIGHTCLUBS: *She* **goes clubbing** (=visits nightclubs) *every night.*

club class /ˈ· ·/ *n* BUSINESS CLASS

club·foot /ˈklʌbfʊt/ *n* [C;U] (the condition of having) a badly-shaped foot twisted out of position from birth —**~ed** /ˌklʌbˈfʊtəd◂/ *adj*

club·house /ˈklʌbhaʊs/ *n* **-houses** /haʊzəz/ a building where a club meets, esp. one used by a sports group

club·land /ˈklʌblænd/ *n* [U] the part of London around St James's, where most of the famous clubs are found

Club Med /ˌklʌb ˈmed/ also **Club Méd·i·ter·ra·née** /ˌklʌb medɪteræˈneɪ/ *fml*— a company which sells holidays to specially-built villages in various parts of the world, esp. aimed at people in the higher social groups

club sand·wich /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n esp. AmE* three pieces of bread with cold food between them (such as cold meat and SALAD), to be eaten with the hands

club so·da /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n AmE for* SODA WATER

cluck[1] /klʌk/ *n* **1** (a sound like) the low short noise that a hen makes when calling her CHICKS (baby hens) or sitting on her eggs **2** *AmE sl* a stupid person or one who has behaved in a stupid way: *You can be a real* **dumb cluck** *sometimes.*

cluck[2] *v* **1** [I] to make a cluck **2** [I (**over**); T] to express (a feeling) by making a sound like this: *She clucked her disapproval.* | *The old lady clucked over her grandchildren, feeding them everything they liked.*

clue[1] /klu:/ *n* **1** [(**to**)] something, such as an object or a piece of information, that helps to find an answer to a question, difficulty, or mystery: *Police have still found no clues as to the whereabouts of the missing woman.* | *I'll never guess the answer – give me another clue!* **2 not have a clue** *infml* **a** to know nothing (about something): *"Do you know the time of the next train?" "I haven't a clue."* | *She hasn't a clue about computers.* **b** to be stupid or lacking in skill: *That new clerk hasn't a clue – it's taken him all afternoon just to file three letters!* **3** a question or information about a word the answer to which will complete one part of a CROSSWORD

clue[2] *v*

clue sbdy. **in** *phr v* [T] *infml* to provide with the latest facts, news, etc.: *I don't know what's been going on – could you clue me in?*

clue sbdy. **up** *phr v* [T (**about, on**)] *infml* to cause (esp. oneself) to become well-informed about something: *You'd better clue yourself up a bit before you go for the interview!*

Clue·do /ˈklu:dəʊ/ *BrE tdmk*‖**Clue** *AmE tdmk*– *n* [U] a board game in which each player becomes a certain character in a murder story and tries to discover which character is the murderer, which instrument was used in the murder, and which room in a house it was done in

clued-up /ˌ· ˈ·/ *adj infml* knowing a lot about something: *She's very clued up about the new pay scheme.*

clue·less /ˈklu:ləs/ *adj infml, esp. BrE* helpless, stupid, or IGNORANT: *I'm completely clueless about cricket.*

clump[1] /klʌmp/ *n* **1** [C (**of**)] a group of trees, bushes, plants, etc., growing together: *a little clump of reeds* **2** [C (**of**)] a heavy solid lump or mass of something, such as soil or mud: *sticky clumps of earth on his boots* **3** [S] a heavy slow sound, such as that made by slow footsteps

clump[2] *v* **1** [I+*adv/prep*] to walk with slow heavy noisy footsteps: *She clumps around/about in her heavy boots.* **2** [I;T (TOGETHER)] to (cause) to gather into or form a clump

clum·sy /ˈklʌmzi/ *adj* **1** awkward and ungraceful in movement or action; without skill or grace: *He's too clumsy to be a good dancer.* | *You clumsy oaf ! You've knocked over my coffee!* **2** unskilful in handling people; without TACT: *a clumsy attempt to apologize* **3** difficult to handle or control; UNWIELDY **–-sily** *adv* **–-siness** *n* [U]

clung /klʌŋ/ *past tense & past participle of* CLING

clunk /klʌŋk/ *n* the dull sound of something heavy, esp. metal, hitting something else

clunk-click /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* (in Britain) a word that is sometimes used to remind people to fasten their SEAT BELTS in cars. It comes from a well-known old television advertisement which told people to **clunk-click, every trip.**

clunk·er /ˈklʌŋkəʳ/ *n AmE infml* an old machine, esp. a car, that works very badly and will probably not be useful for much longer

clunk·y /ˈklʌŋki/ *adj AmE infml* large or heavy and awkward: *clunky shoes/furniture*

clus·ter[1] /ˈklʌstəʳ/ *n* **1** [(**of**)] a number of things of the same kind growing or being close together in a group: *a cluster of bees/of stars* | *a small cluster of older buildings in the modern city centre* **2** a small metal BADGE fixed to a soldier's RIBBON (2) as an added sign of honour

cluster[2] *v* [I;T (TOGETHER)] to (cause to) gather or grow in one or more clusters: *The men clustered together for warmth/clustered round the notice board.* | *Most of the foreign embassies are clustered in this area.*

cluster bomb /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* a bomb that sends out a number of smaller bombs when it explodes **–cluster-bomb** *v* [T]

clutch[1] /klʌtʃ/ *v* **1** [T] to hold tightly: *The mother clutched her baby in her arms.* **2** [I (**at**)] to try to hold or seize: *He clutched desperately at the branch as he fell.* **3 clutch at straws** to be prepared to try anything to get oneself out of a difficulty

clutch[2] *n* **1** (the PEDAL that operates) an apparatus, esp. in a car, which allows working parts of machinery to be connected or disconnected smoothly: *Take your foot off the clutch after changing gear.* –see picture at CAR **2** [*usu. sing.*] an act of clutching or the fingers and hands in the act of clutching; GRIP[2] **3** *AmE* a CLUTCH BAG –see also CLUTCHES

clutch[3] *n* [(**of**)] (the chickens born from) a number of eggs laid by one bird at one time: *a clutch of eggs* | (fig.) *a clutch of new trainees*

clutch bag /ˈ· ·/ *n* a type of HANDBAG that is carried in the hand rather than with a STRAP. It is usu. used by women when they are going out somewhere special in the evening.

clutch·es /ˈklʌtʃɨz/ *n* [P] control or power: *in the clutches of the enemy* | *She fell into the clutches of that awful man!*

clut·ter[1] /ˈklʌtəʳ/ *v* [T (UP, **with**)] to make untidy or confused, esp. by filling with useless or unwanted things: *The room was cluttered (up) with toys.* | *His mind's cluttered with useless information.*

clutter[2] *n* [S;U] (a collection of) things scattered about in a disorderly fashion: *a desk full of clutter* | *Her room is always* **in a clutter.** (=untidy)

Clw·yd /ˈklu:ɪd/ a COUNTY in N Wales

Clyde[1] /klaɪd/ [*the*] a large river which goes through Glasgow

Clyde[2] see BONNIE AND CLYDE

Clydes·dale Bank /ˌklaɪdzdeɪl ˈbæŋk/ [*the*] one of the main banks in Scotland. Like other Scottish banks it prints its own banknotes.

Clyde·side /ˈklaɪdsaɪd/ the towns between Glasgow and Greenock on the river Clyde in Scotland where many famous shipbuilding firms were established in the past

cm *written abbrev. for* CENTIMETRE(*s*)

CND /ˌsi: en ˈdi:/ the CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT; a British organization that opposes the use of NUCLEAR weapons: *a big CND demonstration*

CND



CNN /ˌsi: en ˈen/ Cable News Network; an American CABLE television station that only broadcasts news

c/o /ˌsi: ˈəʊ◂/ *abbrev. for:* care of; (esp. used when writing addresses) to be held or looked after by: *Send it to John Hammond c/o Dorothy Smith.*

Co[1] *written abbrev. for* COUNTY[1]: *Sunderland, Co Durham*

Co[2] /kəʊ/ *abbrev. for* COMPANY (1): *James Smith & Co*

CO *written abbrev. for* COLORADO

C.O. /ˌsi: ˈəʊ◂/ *n* Commanding Officer; a person in the armed forces who holds a position above others

co- see WORD FORMATION

coach[1] /kəʊtʃ/ *n* **1** *BrE* ‖ **bus** *AmE*– a comfortable bus used for long-distance travel or touring: *We went to Switzerland by coach.* | *This hotel welcomes coach parties.* (=groups of people travelling in coaches) **2** also **carriage** *BrE* ‖ **car** *AmE*– a railway passenger carriage **3** a person **a** who trains sportsmen and sportswomen for games, competitions, etc.: *a football/baseball coach* **b** who is employed privately to train a student for an examination: *a mathematics coach* **4** *AmE* the cheapest class of seats in a plane or train: *Do you want coach or first-class?* **5** a large enclosed four-wheeled horse-drawn carriage, used esp. in former times or in official ceremonies: *a coach and four* (=four horses) | *the royal coach* – see also **drive a coach and horses through** (DRIVE[1])

coach[2] *v* [I;T (**for, in**)] to train or teach, esp. not in a place of formal education; give instruction or advice to (a person or a group of people): *I coach people for English exams.* | *She coaches me in French.* | *to do some private coaching* –see TEACH (USAGE)

Coach and Hors·es /ˌ· · ˈ··/ [*the*] (in Britain) a very common name for a PUB: *We had a pint in the Coach and Horses.*

coach·build·er /ˈkəʊtʃˌbɪldəʳ/ *n BrE* a skilled worker who builds the bodies of motor vehicles, railway carriages, etc.

coach·man /ˈkəʊtʃmən/ *n* **-men** /mən/ a person employed to drive a horse-drawn coach

coach sta·tion /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n BrE* (the building or buildings at) a place where a COACH (1) starts and finishes its journey and where passengers can get on and off

coach·work /ˈkəʊtʃwɜːk‖-wɜːrk/ *n* [U] *BrE* the outside body of a car

co·ad·ju·tor /kəʊˈædʒʊtəʳ‖ˌkəʊəˈdʒuːtər, kəʊˈædʒʊtər/ *n fml* a helper; ASSISTANT

co·ag·u·late /kəʊˈægjʊleɪt/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) change from a liquid into a solid state, esp. by chemical action: *Blood coagulates when it meets air.* —**-lation** /kəʊˌægjʊˈleɪʃən/ *n* [U]

coal[1] /kəʊl/ *n* **1** [U] a black or brownish-black mineral which is dug from the earth, which can be burnt to give heat, and from which gas and many other products can be made: *a sack/lump of coal | a coal fire | a coal miner* **2** [C] a burning piece of coal; EMBER: *A coal fell from the fire and burned the rug.* **3 carry/take coals to Newcastle** *infml* to take goods to a place where they are plentiful already —see also COKE[1], **haul over the coals** (HAUL[1])

coal[2] *v* **1** [T] to supply (a ship, railway engine, etc.) with coal **2** [I] (of ships, engines, etc.) to take in coal

coal·bun·ker /ˈkəʊlˌbʌŋkəʳ/ *n* a container or small building where coal is stored

coal cel·lar /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n AmE for* COAL HOLE

co·a·lesce /ˌkəʊəˈles/ *v* [I] *fml or tech* to grow together so as to form one group, body, mass, etc.; MERGE —**-lescence** *n* [U]

coal·face /ˈkəʊlfeɪs/ *n* **1** [C] the part of a coalmine from which coal is actually cut **2** [*the*+S] *esp. BrE* the place where a particular job is actually done, not just talked about: *new methods that can be used by teachers working at the coalface* (=in the classroom)

coal·field /ˈkəʊlfiːld/ *n* an area where there is a lot of coal under the ground

coal gas /ˈ· ·/ *n* [U] gas produced by burning coal, used esp. for lighting and heating —compare NATURAL GAS

coal·hole /ˈkəʊlhəʊl/ *BrE* ‖ **coal cellar** *AmE* — *n* a small usu. underground room where coal is stored

coal·house /ˈkəʊlhaʊs/ *n* **-houses** /haʊzɪz/ a small building where coal is stored

Coal·ite /ˈkəʊlaɪt/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a smokeless substance similar to coal for burning on fires esp. in the many areas of Britain where people are not allowed to burn coal

co·a·li·tion /ˌkəʊəˈlɪʃən◂/ *n* a union of separate political parties for a special purpose (esp. to form a government), usu. for a limited period of time: *to form a coalition | a coalition government* —see also extra information on page 412

coal·man /ˈkəʊlmæn/ *n* **-men** /men/ a man who delivers coal to people's houses

coal·mine /ˈkəʊlmaɪn/ *n* a mine from which coal is dug

coal·scut·tle /ˈkəʊlˌskʌtl/ also **scuttle**— *n* a bucket in which coal is carried and from which it can be poured —see picture at FIREPLACE

coal tar /ˈ· ·/ *n* [U] a thick black sticky liquid made by heating coal without air, from which many drugs and chemical products may be obtained

coarse /kɔːs‖kɔːrs/ *adj* **1** not fine or smooth; lumpy or rough: *coarse sand | a coarse woollen cloth* **2** lacking grace, education, or sensitivity; CRUDE; VULGAR: *coarse behaviour | a coarse joke* — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

coarse fish·ing /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [U] *BrE* the sport of trying to catch fish that are not TROUT or SALMON in lakes or rivers

coars·en /ˈkɔːsən‖ˈkɔːr-/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) become coarse

coast[1] /kəʊst/ *n* **1** [*the*+S;C] the land on or close to the edge of the sea: *The ship sank three miles off the French coast.| a hotel on the coast | the southern and eastern coasts of Britain* —see SHORE (USAGE) **2** [C] *esp. AmE* an act of coasting down a hill **3 the coast is/was clear** *infml* all danger has/had gone: *As soon as the coast was clear the two thieves made their getaway.*

coast[2] *v* **1** [I (**along, down,** ALONG)] to keep moving, esp. down a hill, without using any effort or power: *The children were coasting along on their bicycles/coasting down the slope.* | (fig.) *She coasted through her exams.* — compare FREEWHEEL **2** [I;T] *AmE* SLEDGE[2] (2)

coast·al /ˈkəʊstl/ *adj* [A *no comp.*] on or near the coast: *a coastal resort | coastal waters | coastal fishing*

coast·er /ˈkəʊstəʳ/ *n* **1** a ship which sails from port to port along a coast **2** a small round mat placed under a bottle, glass, etc., to protect a table top or other surface — see also ROLLER COASTER

coaster brake /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n AmE* a BRAKE on a bicycle which is worked by moving the PEDALS backwards

coast·guard /ˈkəʊstgɑːd‖-gɑːrd/ *n* **1** [*the*+S+*sing./pl. v*] (*often caps.*) a naval or police organization that watches from the coast for ships in danger and attempts to prevent unlawful activity at sea **2** [C] a member of this organization

coast·line /ˈkəʊstlaɪn/ *n* the shape of a coast, esp. as seen from the sea or on a map: *a rocky coastline*

coat[1] /kəʊt/ *n* **1** an outer garment with long SLEEVES, often fastened at the front with buttons and usu. covering the body down to the knees, worn esp. to keep warm or for protection: *a warm winter coat | a fur coat | a raincoat | a scientist in a white coat* —see also MORNING COAT, and see pictures at LABORATORY and at OVERALL **2** *BrE old-fash or AmE* a JACKET **3** an animal's fur, wool, or hair: *The dog's coat was shiny and healthy-looking.* **4** [**(of)**] a covering spread over a surface: *a coat of paint/of dust* **5 -coated** /kəʊtɪd/ having the stated kind of coat: *a curly-coated dog | a chocolate-coated biscuit* —see also **cut one's coat according to one's cloth** (CUT[1])

coat[2] *v* [T **(in, with)**] to cover with a COAT[1] (4): *to coat a cake with chocolate | The table was coated in/with dust.*

coat check /ˈ· ·/ *n AmE for* a CLOAKROOM

coat hang·er /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a HANGER

coat·ing /ˈkəʊtɪŋ/ *n* **1** [C **(of)**] a covering on or over a surface: *a cake with a coating of chocolate | electric wire with a plastic coating* **2** [U] cloth from which coats are made

coat of arms /ˌ· · ˈ·/ *n* **coats of arms** a set of patterns or pictures, usu. painted on a shield or shield-like shape, used by a noble family, town council, university, etc., as their special sign —see also HERALDRY

coat of arms



coat of many col·ours /ˌ· · ˌ·· ˈ··/ [*the*] the coat which, according to the Bible, Jacob made for his favourite son, Joseph —see also JOSEPH

coat·room /ˈkəʊtrʊm, -ruːm/ *n AmE for* a CLOAKROOM

coat tails /ˈ· ·/ *n* [P] **1** the long divided piece of material which hangs down from the back of a man's TAILCOAT **2 on someone's coat tails** *esp. AmE* (esp. in politics) using the help or influence of someone else: *He was voted into the Assembly on Davidson's coat tails.*

coax /kəʊks/ *v* [T] **1** [**(into, out of)**] to persuade (someone) by gentle kindness, patience, or FLATTERY: *The children had to be coaxed into going to school.* [+*to-v*] *She coaxed him to take her to the theatre.* | (fig.) *to coax a wire through a hole* **2** [+*obj*+*adv/prep*] to get (something) by gently persuading: *I coaxed a smile from the little girl.* — **~ingly** *adv*

cob /kɒb‖kɑːb/ *n* **1** a CORNCOB —see also CORN ON THE COB **2** a male SWAN **3** a strong short-legged type of horse **4** a type of large nut, esp. one from the HAZEL tree

co·balt /ˈkəʊbɔːlt/ *n* [U] a shiny silver-white metal that is an ELEMENT (=a simple substance), used in blue colouring materials and in making metals

Cobb /kɒb‖kɑːb/, **Ty** /taɪ/ (1886–1961) a BASEBALL player who established a record of 4000 hits

cob·ber /ˈkɒbəʳ‖ˈkɑː-/ *n AustrE & NZE, infml* a friend; MATE

cob·ble /ˈkɒbəl‖ˈkɑː-/ *v* [T] **1** [(TOGETHER)] to make or put together quickly and roughly: *We cobbled together a proposal to put before the committee.* **2** *rare* to repair (shoes)

cob·bled /ˈkɒbəld‖ˈkɑː-/ *adj* (of a road) covered with cobblestones

Cob·bleigh /ˈkɒbli‖ˈkɑː-/ **old Uncle Tom Cobbleigh and**

all a line from an old British song about a large group of people who do things together. The people are all listed by name, and the list ends with the words "old Uncle Tom Cobbleigh and all". The phrase is now used to say that every possible person was present or involved in something.

cob·bler[1] /ˈkɒblə^{r}‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* **1** a person who makes or repairs shoes **2** *AmE* a cooked fruit dish with a sweet bread-like topping: *peach cobbler*

cobbler[2] *n* a sweet dish made with cooked fruit with a sweet, bread-like covering: *peach cobbler*

cob·blers /ˈkɒbləz‖ˈkɑːblərz/ *n* [U] *BrE sl* foolish talk; nonsense: *I've never heard such* **a load of old cobblers** *in my whole life!*

cob·ble·stone /ˈkɒbəlstəʊn‖ˈkɑː-/ also **cobble–** *n* [*usu. pl.*] a naturally rounded stone, used for covering the surface of roads in former times

Cob·den /ˈkɒbdən‖ˈkɑː-/, **Richard** (1804–65) a British Liberal politician who helped to start the Anti-Corn Law League and believed in FREE TRADE

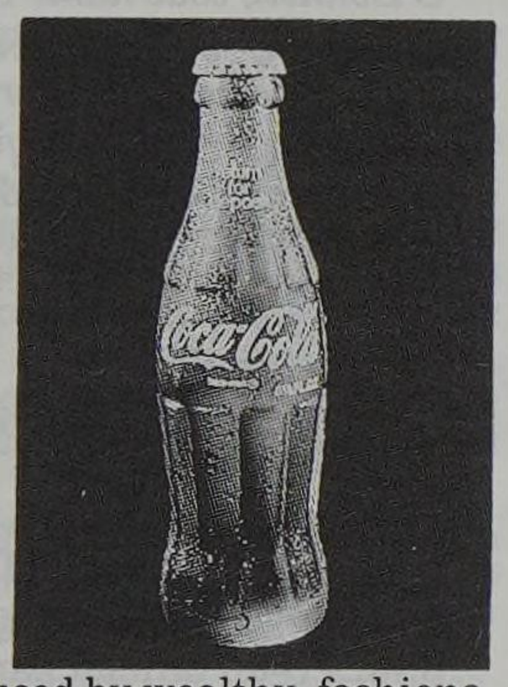
co·bra /ˈkəʊbrə/ *n* an African or Asian poisonous snake that can spread the skin of its neck to make itself look bigger –see picture at SNAKE

cob·web /ˈkɒbweb‖ˈkɑːb-/ also **spiderweb** *AmE*– *n* **1** a very fine network of sticky threads made by a SPIDER to catch insects –see picture at SPIDER **2 blow/brush the cobwebs away** *infml* to make oneself feel fresher and more active with air and exercise: *Let's go for a walk and blow the cobwebs away.* –~**by** *adj*

co·ca /ˈkəʊkə/ *n* [U] a South American bush. Cocaine is produced from its leaves.

Co·ca-Co·la /ˌkəʊkə ˈkəʊlə/ also **Coke, coke**– *n* [C;U] *tdmk* (a small bottle, can, or glass of) a sweet non-alcoholic CARBONATED drink of American origin

Coca-Cola



co·caine /kəʊˈkeɪn/ *n* [U] also **coke** *sl*– a drug used for preventing pain in medical operations which is now often taken illegally for pleasure. It is usu. in the form of a white powder which is sniffed (SNIFF[1]) into the nose. One can become dependent on it. Cocaine is expensive and is sometimes used by wealthy, fashionable people –see also CRACK[4]

coc·cyx /ˈkɒksɪks‖ˈkɑːk-/ *n* **coccyxes** *or* **coccyges** /kɒkˈsaɪdʒiːz‖ˈkɑːksə̬-/ *med* a small bone shaped like a TRIANGLE at the bottom of the BACKBONE in humans –see picture at SKELETON

coch·i·neal /ˌkɒtʃə̬ˈniːl‖ˌkɑː-/ *n* [U] a bright red substance made from the dried body of a tropical American insect and used for colouring food

Co·chise /kəʊˈtʃiːs/ (about 1815–74) a leader of the APACHES. He gave the US government a lot of trouble in the 1860s, until in 1871 his people were given a RESERVATION (3) on their own land.

coch·le·a /ˈkɒkliə‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* **-leas** *or* **-leae** /-li-iː/ *med* a SPIRAL-shaped tube like part of the inner ear

Coch·ran /ˈkɒkrən‖ˈkɑː-/, **Ed·die** /ˈedi/ (1938–60) an American popular music singer and GUITAR player whose best-known song is *Summertime Blues*

cock[1] /kɒk‖kɑːk/ *n* **1** [C] also **rooster** *esp. AmE*– a fully-grown male chicken: *The cock crowed at dawn.* –*see also* COCK-A-DOODLE-DOO, COCKEREL

►CULTURAL NOTE In Britain in former times men used to make two cocks fight each other, usu. until one of them was killed, and BET[2] (1) on which one would win.◄

2 [C] (*often in comb.*) a fully-grown male of any bird: *a cock robin* **3** [C] a TAP, VALVE, etc., for controlling the flow of liquid in a pipe; STOPCOCK **4** [C] the hammer of a gun **5** [C] a small pile of HAY **6** [U] *BrE sl* foolish talk; nonsense **7** [C] *BrE sl* (used as a friendly form of address by men to men, esp. in London and Northern England) **8** [C] *taboo sl for* PENIS **9 cock of the walk** *infml, often derog* someone who is (or thinks he is) the most powerful or influential person among a group **10 live like 'fighting cocks** *infml, esp. BrE* to live very well, esp. eating very good food –see also HALF COCK

cock[2] *v* **1** [I;T (UP)] **a** (of parts of the body) to stand up: *The horse's ears cocked.* **b** to cause (parts of the body) to stand up: *The dog cocked its hind leg and urinated.* **2** [T] to set (the hammer of a gun) in the position ready for firing: *to cock a pistol* **3** [T] to cause (a hat) to slope slightly; TILT **4 cock a snook (at)** *BrE infml* to show open disrespect (for): *The artist cocked a snook at the critics by exhibiting an empty frame.*

cock sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] *BrE sl* to spoil or ruin (arrangements, plans, etc.): *He's furious – his secretary's cocked up his travelling schedule.* –see also COCK-UP

cock·ade /kɒˈkeɪd‖kɑː-/ *n* a decorative knot of material worn on a hat as a sign of rank, membership, etc.

cock-a-doo·dle-doo /ˌkɒk ə ˌduːdl ˈduː‖ˌkɑːk-/ *n* **-doos** the loud long cry made by a COCK[1] (1)

cock-a-hoop /ˌkɒk ə ˈhuːp‖ˌkɑːk-/ *adj* [F] *infml* **1** [(**about, at**)] very happy and pleased: *He was cock-a-hoop about his new job.* **2** *AmE* in disorder; very untidy

cock-a-leek·ie /ˌkɒk ə ˈliːki‖ˌkɑːk-/ *n* [U] *BrE* soup made from boiled chicken and vegetables, esp. LEEKS

cock·a·ma·mie /ˌkɒkəˈmeɪmi◂‖ˌkɑːk-/ *adj AmE infml* foolish or nonsensical; RIDICULOUS: *He told us this cock-amamie story about getting lost just around the corner.*

cock-and-bull sto·ry /ˌ· · ˈ· ˌ··/ *n infml* a foolish improbable story told as if it were true: *She came out with some cock-and-bull story about being delayed by a camel in the road.*

cock·a·too /ˌkɒkəˈtuː‖ˈkɑːkətuː/ *n* **-toos** *or* **-too** an Australian bird (a type of PARROT) with a CREST (=a lot of large feathers) on the top of its head

cock·a·trice /ˈkɒkətraɪs‖ˈkɑːk-/ *n* the Greek name for a BASILISK

cock·chaf·er /ˈkɒktʃeɪfə^{r}‖ˈkɑːk-/ *n* a European BEETLE (=a type of insect) which attacks trees and plants

cock·crow /ˈkɒk-krəʊ‖ˈkɑːk-/ *n* [U] *lit* sunrise

cocked hat /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* **1** a three-cornered hat with turned-up edges, worn in former times or with special uniforms **2 knock someone/something into a cocked hat** *infml* to defeat or spoil completely: *He'll knock all the other competitors into a cocked hat.* | *Her refusal knocked all my plans into a cocked hat.*

cock·e·rel /ˈkɒkərəl‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* a young COCK[1] (1)

cock·er span·iel /ˌkɒkə ˈspænjəl‖ˌkɑːkər-/ also **cocker**– *n* a short-legged dog with long ears and a silky coat

cock·eyed /ˌkɒkˈaɪd◂‖ˌkɑːk-/ *adj sl* **1** turned or twisted to one side; CROOKED; ASKEW **2** foolish, esp. based on false ideas or beliefs; stupid: *cockeyed notions*

cock·fight /ˈkɒkfaɪt‖ˈkɑːk-/ *n* a fight between COCKS[1] (1), watched as a sport –~**ing** *n* [U]

cock·horse /ˌkɒkˈhɔːs‖ˈkɑːkhɔːrs/ *BrE*‖**hobbyhorse** *AmE*– *n rare* a stick with a model horse's head fastened to the top, which children pretend to ride. This is a well-known word because of the NURSERY RHYME (=old song or poem for children) which begins

Ride a cockhorse to Banbury Cross,
To see a fine lady upon a white horse...

cock·le /ˈkɒkəl‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* **1** a common European soft-bodied SHELLFISH used for food. In Britain they are often thought of in connection with MUSSELS, as there is a famous song about "selling cockles and mussels alive, alive-oh". **2 warm the cockles of one's/the heart** to make one feel happy and satisfied: *To hear her talk about her little boy would warm the cockles of your heart.*

cock·le·shell /ˈkɒkəlʃel‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* **1** the heart-shaped shell of the cockle **2** *lit* a small light boat

Cock·ney /ˈkɒkni‖ˈkɑːkni/ *n* **1** [C] a person from the East End of London, usu. someone who is WORKING CLASS and who speaks with a strong ACCENT. Only someone born near enough to hear Bow Bells, the bells of a church in the City of London, is considered to be a true Cockney. **2** [U] the way of speaking English that is typical of Cockneys: *to speak broad Cockney* | *a Cockney accent* –see also RHYMING SLANG

cock·pit /ˈkɒkˌpɪt‖ˈkɑːk-/ *n* **1** the part of a plane, small boat, or racing car in which the pilot or driver sits –see

pictures at AIRLINER and YACHT **2** a small enclosed space where COCKFIGHTS take place: (fig.) *The Middle East has been the cockpit of modern history.* **3** (in former times) a space on the lower floor (DECK) of a warship for the treatment of people wounded in battle

cock·roach /ˈkɒk-rəʊtʃ‖ˈkɑːk-/ also **roach** *AmE infml*– *n* a large black insect which lives esp. in old or dirty houses –see picture at INSECT

cocks·comb /ˈkɒks-kəʊm‖ˈkɑːks-/ *n* **1** the COMB[1] (4) on the head of a male chicken **2** also **coxcomb**– *lit* the cap of a JESTER

cock·sure /ˌkɒkˈʃʊəʳ‖ˌkɑːk-/ *adj infml* too self-confident; offensively sure of oneself

cock·tail /ˈkɒkteɪl‖ˈkɑːk-/ *n* **1** [C] a mixed alcoholic drink, usu. drunk at parties or special occasions and served before the main meal **2** [C;U] a mixture of small pieces of certain foods, usu. served cold in a glass and eaten at the beginning of a meal: *a seafood|prawn cocktail* **3** [C;U] a mixture of small pieces of fruit, usu. eaten at the end of a meal: *a tin of fruit cocktail* –see also MOLOTOV COCKTAIL

cocktail lounge /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a public room in a hotel, club, etc., where alcoholic drinks can be bought

cocktail par·ty /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a party for which one usu. dresses formally and at which there is no dancing. Alcoholic drinks are served, and there is usu. something light to eat, such as QUICHE or CANAPES. Cocktail parties are thought of as an UPPER-CLASS activity for fashionable people, or they may be held at a formal public occasion, e.g. before a PRESS CONFERENCE or at the LAUNCH of a new book.

Cocktail Party, The a play by T S Eliot

cocktail stick /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a small pointed stick on which small pieces of food, e.g. squares of cheese, can be served

cocktail wait·ress /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n AmE* a woman who serves drinks to people sitting at tables in a BAR[1] (3a)

cock-up /ˈ· ·/ *n BrE sl* something that has been done badly or put into complete disorder: *She made a complete cock-up of the arrangements.* –see also COCK **up**

cock·y /ˈkɒki‖ˈkɑːki/ *adj infml* self-confident in an unpleasant way; COCKSURE –**-iness** *n*

co·coa /ˈkəʊkəʊ/ *n* **1** [U] an unsweetened brown powder made by crushing the cooked seeds of a tropical tree (CACAO) and removing some of the fat, used for giving the taste of chocolate to foods and drinks **2** [C;U] (a cupful of) a drink made from hot milk or water mixed with this powder, often drunk at bedtime, esp. by children: *a mug of cocoa* –compare CHOCOLATE[1]

co·co·nut /ˈkəʊkənʌt/ *n* **1** [C] the very large brown hard-shelled nut-like fruit of a tall tropical tree (**coconut palm**), with white flesh and a hollow centre filled with juice (**coconut milk**) **2** [U] the flesh of this seed eaten raw or used in cooking: *shredded coconut | coconut oil*

coconut mat·ting /ˌ··· ˈ··/ *n* [U] a type of hard rough matting made from the material on the outside of a COCONUT and made into e.g. DOORMATS (= a mat on which to clean one's shoes before entering a house)

coconut shy /ˈ··· ˌ·/ *n* (in Britain) a game at a FAIR[3] (1), in which people throw balls at coconuts to win a prize by knocking them off posts

co·coon[1] /kəˈkuːn/ *n* a protective case of silky threads in which some kinds of PUPA (=an insect in its inactive stage) are enclosed –compare CHRYSALIS

cocoon[2] *v* [T (**from, against**)] to keep in a protective covering: (fig.) *He was cocooned against real hardship by his family's wealth.*

Co·co the Clown /ˌkəʊkəʊ ðə ˈklaʊn/ (1900–74) a Russian-born CLOWN, one of the greatest CIRCUS performers ever, who was well known in Britain esp. in the 1950s

Coc·teau /ˈkɒktəʊ‖ˌkɑːkˈtəʊ/, **Jean** /ʒɒn‖ʒɑːn/ (1889–1963) a French writer and filmmaker known for his Surrealism, whose work includes the film *Orphée* and the play *La Machine Infernale*

cod /kɒd‖kɑːd/ also **cod·fish** /ˈkɒdˌfɪʃ‖ˈkɑːd-/– *n* **cod** *or* **cods** [C;U] (the white flesh, used as food, of) a large N Atlantic sea fish: *fishing for cod | cod fillets|steaks*

COD /ˌsiː əʊ ˈdiː/ *abbrev. for:* **1** cash on delivery; a situation in which a customer receiving goods pays the person handing them over: *to send a parcel COD* **2** *AmE* collect on delivery

co·da /ˈkəʊdə/ *n* **1** a usu. independent passage that ends a piece of music **2** a partly independent passage that ends a work of literature

cod·dle /ˈkɒdl‖ˈkɑːdl/ *v* [T] **1** to MOLLYCODDLE **2** to cook (esp. an egg) slowly in water just below boiling point: *coddled eggs*

code[1] /kəʊd/ *n* **1** a system of words, letters, numbers, etc., used instead of ordinary writing, esp. to keep messages secret: *a message written in code | a computer code | We've* **broken/cracked their code!** (=learnt how to read it) **2** a system of signals used instead of letters and numbers in a message that is to be broadcast, sent by TELEGRAPH, etc.: *a telegraphic code* –see also MORSE CODE **3** also **dialling code** *BrE* ‖ **area code** *AmE*– part of a telephone number that represents a particular town or country and is used before the number of the person or organization one wishes to call: *What's the code for Aberdeen?* **4** a collection of established social customs: *an accepted code of conduct|moral code* **5** a collection of laws or rules: *the Napoleonic Code* –see also GENETIC CODE, MACHINE CODE, POSTCODE, ZIP CODE

code[2] also **encode** *fml*– *v* [T] to translate into a CODE[1] (1,2): *a coded message* –opposite **decode**

code book /ˈ· ·/ *n BrE* a small book listing the telephone numbers (codes) one needs to ring to connect with a certain town or country: *Have you seen the code book?*

co·deine /ˈkəʊdiːn/ *n* [U] a drug made from OPIUM, used as a pain-killing medicine

code name[1] /ˈ· ·/ *n* a name which few people know or understand given to e.g. a military plan of action, a computer PROGRAM, a new technical development, etc. in order to keep the subject secret from other people: *Philip O'Donnell, code name Doc, was the perfect spy.*

code name[2] *v* [T] to give a code name to (sbdy or sthg): *We'll code name this project "Midnight."*

code of prac·tice /ˌ· · ˈ··/ *n* **codes of practice** a set of rules which are not law but describe the attitudes and actions of an industry, an organization, or a group of people involved in a common activity: *The insurers' code of practice requires the client to be given a week in which to change his mind.*

co·dex /ˈkəʊdeks/ *n* **codices** /ˈkəʊdɪˌsiːz/ *tech* an ancient book written by hand

cod·ger /ˈkɒdʒəʳ‖ˈkɑː-/ *n infml derog or humor* an old man (esp. in the phrase **old codger**)

cod·i·cil /ˈkəʊdɪˌsɪl‖ˈkɑːdˌsəl, -sɪl/ *n law* a later addition to a WILL (=an official paper stating who is to have one's possessions after one's death)

co·di·fy /ˈkəʊdɪˌfaɪ‖ˈkɑː-/ *v* [T] to arrange (esp. laws) into a CODE[1] (5) or system –**-fication** /ˌkəʊdɪfɪˈkeɪʃən‖ˌkɑː-/ *n* [C;U]

cod-liver oil /ˌ· ·· ˈ·◂/ *n* [U] oil from the LIVER (=an organ of the body) of the COD, which is full of useful VITAMINS. Cod-liver oil used to be regularly given to children until the 1940s or 1950s. Many children hated it because of its unpleasant taste.

cod·piece /ˈkɒdpiːs‖ˈkɑːd-/ *n* a sometimes decorated bag used formerly to cover the opening in the front of men's tight-fitting trousers

cods·wal·lop /ˈkɒdzwɒləp‖ˈkɑːdzwɑː-/ *n* [U] *BrE old-fash sl* nonsense

cod war /ˈ· ·/ *n* any of three arguments between Britain and Iceland in 1958, 1972–73, and 1975–76, about Iceland's decision to limit the amount of cod that British boats could catch in the sea around Iceland

Co·dy /ˈkəʊdi/, **Wil·liam Fred·e·rick** /ˈwɪljəm ˈfredərɪk/ the real name of BUFFALO BILL

Coe /kəʊ/, **Se·bas·ti·an** /sɪˈbæstiən‖-tʃən/ (1956–) an English middle-distance runner who broke several world records and won GOLD MEDALS in the Olympic Games in 1980 and 1984. In 1990 he left sport to go into politics and became a Member of Parliament in 1992.

co·ed[1] /ˌkəʊˈed◂‖ˈkəʊed/ *adj infml* (of education, a school, etc.) coeducational: *It used to be a single-sex school but it's gone coed.*

coed[2] *n old-fash AmE infml* a female student in a college open to both sexes

co·ed·u·ca·tion /ˌkəʊedjʊˈkeɪʃən‖-dʒə-/ *n* [U] the system of

educating boys and girls together in the same buildings and classes —~**al** *adj*

co·ef·fi·cient /ˌkəʊɪˈfɪʃənt/ *n tech* **1** the number by which a VARIABLE[2] is multiplied: *In 8pz the coefficient of pz is 8.* **2** a number that measures some quality or process: *The* **coefficient of expansion** *shows the amount by which a substance expands for a particular change of temperature.*

co·e·qual /ˌkəʊˈiːkwəl/ *n fml* any of two or more people who are equal with one another in rank, ability, power, etc. —**coequal** *adj* [(**with**)] —~**ly** *adv*

co·erce /kəʊˈɜːs‖-ˈɜːrs/ *v* [T] *fml* **1** [(**into**)] to make (an unwilling person or group) do something, by force, threats, etc.; COMPEL: *The defendant claimed he had been coerced into making a confession.* **2** [*often pass.*] to keep (a person, group, or activity) under control by using force, threats of punishment, etc.; REPRESS

co·er·cion /kəʊˈɜːʃən‖-ˈɜːrʒən/ *n* [U] *fml* the act of coercing or fact of being coerced: *They won the election through a mixture of bribery and coercion.* | *He said he had made the confession under coercion.*

co·er·cive /kəʊˈɜːsɪv‖-ˈɜːr-/ *adj fml* using force; strong enough to coerce: *to use coercive measures|methods* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

co·e·val /kəʊˈiːvəl/ *n, adj* [(**with**)] *lit* (a person) of the same age

co·ex·ist /ˌkəʊɪgˈzɪst/ *v* [I (**with**)] to exist together at the same time, esp. peacefully: *Can the President coexist with a hostile Congress?*

co·ex·ist·ence /ˌkəʊɪgˈzɪstəns/ *n* [U (**with**)] (esp. of countries with opposed political systems) the state of peacefully existing together —**ent** *adj*

C of E /ˌsiː əv ˈiː/ *abbrev. for:* CHURCH OF ENGLAND (2): *"What religion are you?" "C of E".*

cof·fee /ˈkɒfi‖ˈkɔːfi, ˈkɑːfi/ *n* **1** [U] a brown powder made by crushing the berries (**coffee beans**) of a tropical tree: *Brazil exports a lot of coffee.* | *to grind the coffee in a coffee mill* **2** [C;U] (a cupful of) a hot drink made from this powder, to which milk is often added: *Would you like some coffee|a cup of coffee?* | *I never drink instant coffee, only real coffee.* | *One black coffee and one white* (=with milk), *please.* | *a coffee-coloured dress* —see also IRISH COFFEE

►CULTURAL NOTE In the US, many people drink coffee with their breakfast and feel that they must have some or the day has not begun well.◄

coffee bar /ˈ·· ·/ *n BrE* a place where light meals, cakes, and non-alcoholic drinks are served —compare COFFEE SHOP

coffee break /ˈ·· ·/ *n esp. AmE* a short pause from work in the middle of the morning or afternoon for a drink, a rest, etc.

cof·fee·cake /ˈkɒfikeɪk‖ˈkɔː-, ˈkɑː-/ *n AmE* a sweet bread-like cake usually eaten as a SNACK with a cup of coffee

coffee house /ˈ·· ·/ *n* (esp. in Central Europe and formerly in England) a place where non-alcoholic drinks, cakes, and light meals are served, often used by fashionable people as an informal meeting place —compare COFFEE SHOP

coffee klatch , coffee klatsch /ˈkɒfi klætʃ‖ˈkɔː-, ˈkɑː-/ *n AmE* a social occasion when a group of people, usu. women, meet each other to talk and drink coffee

coffee ma·chine /ˈ·· ·ˌ·/ *n* a DRINKS MACHINE

Cof-fee-mate /ˈkɒfimeɪt ‖ ˈkɔː-, ˈkɑː-/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a powdered substance added to coffee instead of cream or milk

coffee morn·ing /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n BrE* a social occasion when a group of people, usu. women, meet at the home of one of the group to talk and drink coffee. Often the people pay for the coffee, and the money collected is given to a church or CHARITY.

cof·fee·pot /ˈkɒfipɒt‖ˈkɔːfipɑːt, ˈkɑː-/ *n* a container in which coffee is made or served —see picture at POT

coffee shop /ˈ·· ·/ *n* **1** *esp. AmE* a small restaurant, often in a hotel, that serves drinks and simple inexpensive meals —compare CAFE, COFFEE BAR **2** a shop that sells various kinds of coffee

coffee ta·ble /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a low table, usu. used in a LIVING ROOM —see picture at LIVING ROOM

coffee-table book /ˈ·· ·· ˌ·/ *n often derog* a large expensive book with a lot of pictures in it, which is intended to look attractive rather than to give a lot of serious information

cof·fer /ˈkɒfəʳ‖ˈkɔː-, ˈkɑː-/ *n* a large strong chest for holding money, jewels, or other valuable objects: (fig.) *The government's coffers are almost empty.* (=they have no money)

cof·fer·dam /ˈkɒfədæm‖ˈkɔːfər-, ˈkɑː-/ also **coffer–** *n* a CAISSON

cof·fin /ˈkɒfɪn‖ˈkɔː-, ˈkɑː-/ also **casket** *esp. AmE*– *n* the box in which a dead person is buried or burnt —see also **nail in someone's coffin** (NAIL[1] (3))

cog /kɒg‖kɑːg/ *n* **1** any of the teeth round the edge of a wheel (**cogwheel**) that cause it to move or be moved by another wheel: *the cogs in a car's gear wheels* **2** a COGWHEEL **3** *infml* an unimportant person in a large business or organization: *I'm just a* **cog in the machine** *of a big insurance company.*

co·gent /ˈkəʊdʒənt/ *adj fml* (esp. of reasons or arguments) tending to persuade or to produce belief; CONVINCING: *cogent arguments in favour of the proposal* —~**ly** *adv* —**-gency** *n* [U]

cog·i·tate /ˈkɒdʒɪteɪt‖ˈkɑː-/ *v* [I (**about, on, upon**)] *fml or humor* to think carefully and seriously about something; PONDER —**-tation** /ˌkɒdʒɪˈteɪʃən‖ˌkɑːdʒə-/ *n* [C;U]

cog·i·to er·go sum /ˌkɒgɪtəʊ ɜːgəʊ ˈsʊm‖ˌkəʊ-, -ɜːr-/ see DESCARTES

co·gnac /ˈkɒnjæk‖ˈkəʊ-, ˈkɑː-/ *n* [C;U] (a glass of) BRANDY (=a fine strong alcoholic drink) made in France

cog·nate[1] /ˈkɒgneɪt‖ˈkɑːg-/ *adj* [(**with**)] *fml or tech* related in origin or qualities: *Italian and Spanish are cognate languages.*

cognate[2] *n fml or tech* someone or something related in origin or sharing some qualities with another person or thing, esp. a word in one language that is similar to one in another language and has the same origin

cog·ni·tion /kɒgˈnɪʃən‖kɑːg-/ *n* [U] *fml or tech* the act or experience of knowing, including consciousness of things and judgment about them: *in full cognition of the facts*

cog·ni·tive /ˈkɒgnɪtɪv‖ˈkɑːg-/ *adj fml or tech* of or about cognition: *cognitive psychology|learning* —~**ly** *adv*

cog·ni·zance , -sance /ˈkɒgnɪzəns‖ˈkɑːg-/ *n* **take cognizance of** *fml or law* to take notice of; take into consideration: *The judge has taken cognizance of the new facts in your case.*

cog·ni·zant , -sant /ˈkɒgnɪzənt‖ˈkɑːg-/ *adj* [F+**of**] *fml or law* having knowledge or information; AWARE: *The judge said he was not fully cognizant of the facts in the case.*

cog·no·men /kɒgˈnəʊmən‖kɑːg-, ˈkɑːgnə-/ *n* **1** *pomp* a descriptive NICKNAME, such as "the Great" in "Frederick the Great" **2** *tech* a person's SURNAME (=family name), esp. in ancient Rome

co·gno·scen·ti /ˌkɒnjəʊˈʃentiː‖ˌkɑːnjə-/ *n* [(*the*) P] people who have, or claim to have, special knowledge of or experience in fashion, art, food, etc.; CONNOISSEURS

cog·wheel /ˈkɒg-wiːl‖ˈkɑːg-/ also **cog–** *n* a wheel with teeth round the edge that can move or be moved by another wheel of the same type —see picture at COG

co·hab·it /ˌkəʊˈhæbɪt/ *v* [I (**with**)] *fml* (of unmarried people) to live together as though married: *Ann and Peter have been cohabiting|Ann has been cohabiting with Peter for years.* —~**ation** /kəʊˌhæbɪˈteɪʃən/ *n* [U]

Co·han /ˈkəʊhæn/, **George M.** (1878–1942) an American actor, PLAYWRIGHT, and songwriter, best known for the songs *I'm a Yankee Doodle Dandy*, *You're a Grand Old Flag*, and *Give My Regards to Broadway*. A film and a musical have been made about his life.

Co·hen /ˈkəʊɪn/, **Leonard** (1934–) a Canadian FOLK singer esp. popular in the 1960s

co·here /kəʊˈhɪəʳ/ *v* [I] *fml* **1** to stick together; be united: *to make two surfaces cohere* **2** to be reasonably and naturally connected, esp. in thought; show coherence: *an argument that simply fails to cohere*

co·her·ence /kəʊˈhɪərəns/ also **co·her·en·cy** /-rənsi/– *n* [U] natural or reasonable connection; an orderly relationship between parts, esp. in speech, writing, or argument; CONSISTENCY

co·her·ent /kəʊˈhɪərənt/ *adj* (esp. of speech, writing, or

argument) naturally or reasonably connected and therefore easy to understand; showing coherence; CONSISTENT: *to construct a coherent argument | They seem to have no coherent plan for saving the company.* —opposite **incoherent** —**~ly** *adv*

co·he·sion /kəʊˈhiːʒən/ *n* [U] **1** the act or state of sticking together tightly: *We need greater cohesion in the party if we're going to win the next election.* **2** *tech* close relationship, based on grammar or meaning, between different parts of a sentence or between one sentence and another —**-sive** /ˈhiːsɪv/ *adj* : *cohesive forces in society | a cohesive group* —**-sively** *adv* —**-siveness** *n* [U]

Cohn-Ben·dit /ˌkəʊn ˈbendɪt/, **Dan·ny** /ˈdæni/ (1945–) a leader of a LEFT-WING political movement in France in the 1960s

co·hort /ˈkəʊhɔːt‖-hɔːrt/ *n* **1** [+*sing./pl. v*] *tech* any group of people who share some common quality, esp. those of the same age, in a study of the population **2** [+*sing./pl. v*] (in the ancient Roman army) a group of between 300 and 600 soldiers under one commander **3** *often derog, esp. AmE* a companion; ASSOCIATE: *the mayor and his disreputable cohorts*

COHSE /ˈkəʊzi/ the Confederation of Health Service Employees; the British TRADE UNION for nurses and other medical workers

COI /ˌsiː əʊ ˈaɪ/ [*the*] the Central Office of Information; the office of the British government which produces information for the general public and others

coif /kɔɪf/ *n* a close-fitting cap covering the top, sides, and back of the head, worn by some NUNS (=members of female religious groups)

coif·feur /kwɒˈfɜːr‖kwɑː-/ *n fml or pomp* a HAIRDRESSER

coif·fure /kwɒˈfjʊər‖kwɑː-/ *n fml* a way of arranging or wearing the hair; HAIRSTYLE —**-fured** *adj*

coil[1] /kɔɪl/ *v* [I+*adv/prep*;T (UP)] to (cause to) wind or twist round and round to form a ring or SPIRAL: *The snake coiled around the tree|coiled itself into a ball. | a coiled spring*

coil[2] *n* **1** a connected set of rings or twists into which a rope, wire, length of hair, etc., can be wound; continuous circular shape made by winding: *a coil of rope | her heavy coil of hair* **2** *tech* an electrical apparatus made by winding wire into a continuous circular shape, used for carrying an electric current —see picture at ENGINE **3** a coil of metal or plastic which is fitted inside the UTERUS (=the child-bearing organ of a woman) to prevent her from having children; IUD

Coim·bra /ˈkwɪmbrə/ a city in W central Portugal, formerly the capital. It is famous for having the country's oldest university.

coin[1] /kɔɪn/ *n* **1** a piece of metal, usu. flat and round, made by a government for use as money: *I changed a £5 note|a $5 bill because I needed some coins for the ticket machine.| He paid me in coin. | Let's* **toss/flip a coin** *to decide who should go first – do you want heads or tails?*

►CULTURAL NOTE People sometimes bite a coin, usu. jokingly, to see if it is GENUINE.◄

2 pay someone in their own coin *esp. BrE fml* to treat someone in the same (bad) way as they have treated others **3 the other side of the coin** the other or opposite side of an argument, situation, etc.: *These workers earn a lot more than us, but the other side of the coin is that their job is much more dangerous.*

coin[2] *v* [T] **1** to make (coins) from metal **2** to invent (a word or phrase): *Who coined the word "nuke"?* **3 coin money** also **coin it**– *BrE infml* to earn a lot of money very quickly: *That restaurant must be coining money – it's always full.* **4 to coin a phrase** *humor* (used for excusing oneself when one has used a very well-known and ordinary phrase): *Many hands make light work, to coin a phrase.* —**~er** *n*

coin·age /ˈkɔɪnɪdʒ/ *n* **1** [U] the system of coins used in a country: *decimal coinage* **2** [C] a word or phrase recently invented: *The word "nuke" is a fairly recent coinage.* **3** [U] **a** the act of making coins **b** the act of inventing new words or phrases

co·in·cide /ˌkəʊɪnˈsaɪd/ *v* [I (**with**)] **1** to happen at the same time or during the same period: *Her holidays don't coincide with mine. | The Queen's visit has been planned to coincide with the school's 200th anniversary.* **2** (of ideas, opinions, etc.) to be in agreement: *Our interests happened to coincide.*

co·in·ci·dence /kəʊˈɪnsɪdəns/ *n* **1** [C;U] (an example of) the happening by chance at the same time or place of two or more events which are similar or related: *What a coincidence that I was in London at the same time as you! | By* **sheer coincidence***|By a curious coincidence, my husband and I have the same birthday. | It is no coincidence that his car was seen near the bank at the time of the robbery.* **2** [U] *fml* the condition or fact of coinciding: *coincidence of opinions*

co·in·ci·dent /kəʊˈɪnsɪdənt/ *adj* **1** [(**with**)] *tech or fml* existing or happening in the same position and time **2** *fml* being in complete agreement

co·in·ci·den·tal /kəʊˌɪnsɪˈdentl/ *adj* resulting from a coincidence: *It was purely coincidental that we were travelling on the same plane.* —**~ly** *adv* : *Coincidentally, he and I were on the same plane.*

Coin·treau /ˈkwɒntrəʊ‖kwɑːnˈtrəʊ/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a strong colourless alcoholic drink, tasting of oranges, usu. drunk from a small glass after a meal

coir /kɔɪəʳ/ *n* [U] the rough hair outer covering of the COCONUT, used for making ropes, mats, etc.

coi·tus /ˈkɔɪtəs, *med* ˈkəʊɪtəs/ also **co·i·tion** /kəʊˈɪʃən/— *n* [U] *med or fml* the act of sex; SEXUAL INTERCOURSE —**coital** /ˈkɔɪtl, *med* ˈkəʊɪtl/ *adj*

coitus in·ter·rup·tus /ˌkɔɪtəs ɪntəˈrʌptəs, *med* ˌkəʊɪ-/ *n* [U] *fml* the practice of taking the man's sex organ out of the woman's sex organ before ejaculating (EJACULATE), to prevent the woman having a baby

coke[1] /kəʊk/ *n* [U] the solid substance that remains after gas has been removed from coal by heating, which is burnt as a FUEL

coke[2] *n* **1** [C;U] also **Coke**– *tdmk for* COCA-COLA **2** [U] *sl for* COCAINE

col /kɒl‖kɑːl/ *n* a low place between two high points in a mountain range; mountain PASS[2] (5) —see picture at MOUNTAIN

col. *written abbrev. for:* COLONEL

co·la /ˈkəʊlə/ *n* [C;U] (a glass of) a non-alcoholic sweet CARBONATED dark-coloured drink: *Two colas, please. | What kind of cola is this?* —see also DIET COLA

COLA /ˈkəʊlə/ *n* cost of living adjustment; in the US, a way of increasing wages or SOCIAL SECURITY payments to keep up with INFLATION

col·an·der /ˈkʌləndəʳ, ˈkɒ-‖ˈkʌ-, ˈkɑː-/ also **cullender**– *n* a metal or plastic bowl with many small holes in the bottom, used for separating liquid from food: *Strain the peas in the colander.*

Col·ches·ter /ˈkəʊltʃɪstəʳ‖-tʃes-/ a town in SE England. It was the Roman capital of Britain .

cold[1] /kəʊld/ *adj* **1** having a low or lower than usual temperature; not warm: *cold water | a cold wind | It's a cold day for July, isn't it? | It's getting cold – let's shut the window. | I'm (feeling) cold; I should have put a coat on. | My coffee has gone cold. | My toes are* **as cold as ice**. | (fig.) *She went cold with fear when she heard the footsteps outside her door.* —opposite **hot** **2 a** not cheerful or friendly: *a cold handshake|greeting | She seemed rather cold towards the visitors.* **b** not influenced by feeling: *a cold calculating murderer | a cold evaluation of the facts | The prospect of another party* **left her cold.** (=she was not excited or pleased about it) —see also COOL, FROSTY **3** (of food) cooked but not eaten hot: *cold meat | Shall I heat up the pies or shall we eat them cold?* **4** [F] (esp. in children's games) still a long way from finding a hidden object, the answer, etc.: *You're getting colder.* —compare HOT[1] (11), WARM[1] (7) **5** [F] *infml* unconscious, esp. as the result of a severe blow to the head: *I knocked him cold with one blow. | She's* **out cold**. —see also **in cold blood** (BLOOD[1]), **blow hot and cold** (BLOW[1]), **pour cold water over/on** (POUR) —**~ly** *adv* : *"Good morning," she said coldly. | coldly analytical* —**~ness** *n* [U]

▷USAGE Compare **cold** and **cool, hot** and **warm. Cold** suggests a lower temperature than **cool,** perhaps uncomfortably low: **cold** *weather.* **Cool** often suggests a pleasantly low temperature: *a nice* **cool** *breeze | a lovely* **cool** *room* (said when you are hot). In the same way,

hot suggests a higher temperature than **warm,** or a temperature which would not be comfortable for a long period. **Warm** often suggests a pleasantly high temperature: *The handle is too* **hot** *to touch.* | *I've caught a cold, so I'm going to take a quick* **hot** *bath and go to bed.* | *I could lie in a* **warm** *bath for hours.* | *a lovely* **warm** *room* (said when you are cold).◁

cold[2] *n* **1** [(*the*) U] the absence of heat; low temperature or cold weather: *Don't go out in the cold without a coat!* | *The machine is designed to work in extremes of heat or cold.* **2** [C;U] an illness, esp. of the nose and/or throat, which causes headaches, coughing, slight fever, and general discomfort: *I've got a bad cold.* | *He* **caught (a) cold** *in the storm yesterday.* **3 come in from the cold** to become accepted or recognized, esp. by a powerful group of people (from the title of a book by John Le Carré, *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold*) **4 feed a cold and starve a fever** *saying* a phrase stating an old belief that if you have a cold you should eat a lot to get better, but if you have a FEVER (=your body is hot because of illness) you should eat nothing **5 (out) in the cold** *infml* not considered or not taking part: *He was left out in the cold at school because he didn't like sports.* —see also COMMON COLD, **catch one's death of cold** (CATCH[1])

cold[3] *adv* completely; thoroughly: *When he asked her to marry him she turned him down cold.* | *He stopped cold when he heard a noise behind him.*

cold-blood·ed /ˌ· ˈ··◂/ *adj* **1** [*no comp.*] having a body temperature that changes according to the temperature of the surroundings: *Snakes are cold-blooded.* —compare WARM-BLOODED **2** showing complete lack of feeling; cruel: *a cold-blooded murder* **3** *infml* very sensitive to cold —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

cold call /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* a telephone call made to a number found in the telephone book or on a list in order to try to sell something to the person who answers.

cold chis·el /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* a CHISEL (=a strong narrow sharp-ended steel tool) for cutting cold metal

cold com·fort /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [U] something that does not give comfort; no CONSOLATION: *It's cold comfort to know that your disease is a common one when you are ill.*

Cold Comfort Farm /ˌ· ·· ˈ·/ a humorous NOVEL by **Stella Gibbons** about a lonely farm where the people are very strange and the life is very hard

cold cream /ˈ· ·/ *n* [U] a thick white sweet-smelling oily cream for cleaning and smoothing the skin

cold cuts /ˈ· ·/ *n* [P] *esp. AmE* thinly cut pieces of various types of cold meat

cold feet /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* [P] *infml* loss of courage or confidence, esp. just before doing something that is planned (esp. in the phrases **get/have cold feet**): *They got cold feet at the last minute and refused to sign the contract.*

cold fish /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* an unfriendly person who deals with others in a cold way

cold frame /ˈ· ·/ *n* a small glass-covered frame for protecting young plants

cold front /ˌ· ˈ·‖ˈ· ·/ *n* the advancing edge of a cold mass of air

cold fu·sion /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [U] NUCLEAR FUSION taking place at room temperature using ordinary chemicals. It is widely believed by scientists not to be possible, and has not been satisfactorily proved.

cold-heart·ed /ˌ· ˈ··◂/ *adj* unkind; showing no sympathy: *a cold-hearted refusal to help* —compare WARM-HEARTED —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

Col·ditz /ˈkəʊldɪts/ a town in Germany that is famous for its castle, which was used as a prisoner-of-war camp in the Second World War and from which many escapes were attempted, a few successfully.

cold shoul·der /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [*the*+S] *infml* intentionally cold unsympathetic treatment (esp. in the phrases **give/get the cold shoulder**): *After he left his wife for a younger woman, his friends all gave him the cold shoulder.* —**cold-shoulder** /· ˈ··/ *v* [T]

cold show·er /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* an act of washing the body under cold running water. People often say jokingly that a man needs a cold shower if he is sexually excited, because it is thought that a cold shower will calm him down.

cold snap /ˈ· ·/ also **cold spell** *AmE* – *n* a sudden short period of very cold weather

cold sore /ˈ· ·/ *n* a sore on the lips or inside the mouth, that often comes with a cold or fever —see also HERPES

cold steel /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* [U] *lit* a fighting weapon such as a knife or sword, rather than a gun

cold stor·age /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [U] **1** storage (e.g. of food) in a cold place in order to keep things fresh or in good condition **2** the condition of being put aside for future action: *We'll put the plan into cold storage until we can find some more money.*

cold store /ˈ· ˌ·/ *n* a cold usu. REFRIGERATED room for keeping food, fur, etc. in

Cold·stream Guards /ˌkəʊldstriːm ˈgɑːdz‖-ˈgɑːrdz/ [*the*] one of the most famous REGIMENTS (=divisions of men) in the British army, formed more than three hundred years ago

cold sweat /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* [S] a state in which one SWEATS and feels cold at the same time, because of fear or nervousness: *to break out in a cold sweat*

cold tur·key /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [U] *sl* **1** (the unpleasant sick feeling caused by) the sudden stopping of the use of a drug by an ADDICT (=someone who is dependent on a drug) **2 go cold turkey** to stop the use of a drug suddenly: *When I gave up smoking I went cold turkey.*

cold war /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *n* a state of severe political struggle between countries with opposed political systems, who attack each other in various political ways without actually fighting

Cold War [*the*] the political struggle between the US and the Soviet Union after the Second World War, which was most severe in the 1950s but in the 1970s gave way to DÉTENTE. By late 1991 it was considered to be over.

Cole /kəʊl/, **Nat King** /næt kɪŋ/ (1917–65) an American singer known for his soft, smooth voice. He had most success with his recordings of popular love songs, e.g. *When I Fall in Love.*

Cole, Old King a character in a NURSERY RHYME (=an old song or poem for children):

Old King Cole was a merry old soul,
And a merry old soul was he .....

Cole·man /ˈkəʊlmən/, **Or·nette** /ɔːˈnet‖ɔːr-/ (1930–) an American JAZZ musician and COMPOSER known for his SAXOPHONE playing

Cole·man·balls /ˈkəʊlmənbɔːlz/ *n* [P] *BrE derog humor* the foolish things sometimes said by sports COMMENTATORS, esp. when they are excited. The term was first used by the humorous magazine Private Eye about **David Coleman**, a well-known sports commentator on British television.

Co·le·ridge /ˈkəʊlərɪdʒ/, **Sam·u·el Tay·lor** /ˈsæmjʊəl ˈteɪlə^{r}/ (1772–1834) an English poet and CRITIC, best-known for his poems *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* and *Kubla Khan.* He took drugs, including OPIUM, for many years. He and William Wordsworth were the leaders of the Romantic movement in England —see also ANCIENT MARINER

cole·slaw /ˈkəʊlslɔː/ *n* [U] finely cut uncooked CABBAGE (=a leafy vegetable) in a DRESSING eaten as a SALAD

Col·ette /kɒˈlet‖kəʊ-/ (1873–1954) a French writer best-known for her NOVELS *Chéri* and *Gigi*

co·ley /ˈkəʊli/ *n* **coley** *or* **coleys** [C;U] (the white flesh, used as food, of) a large North Atlantic sea fish

Col·gate /ˈkəʊlgeɪt/ *n tdmk* a type of TOOTHPASTE made by Colgate-Palmolive Limited

col·ic /ˈkɒlɪk‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* [(*the*) U] a severe pain in the stomach and bowels, esp. of babies

col·ick·y /ˈkɒlɪki‖ˈkɑː-/ *adj* like colic or suffering from colic: *a colicky baby*

Col·i·se·um /ˌkɒlɪˈsiːəm‖ˌkɑː-/ see COLOSSEUM

co·li·tis /kəˈlaɪtɪs/ *n* [U] swelling of the COLON (=part of the bowels) causing severe discomfort

col·lab·o·rate /kəˈlæbəreɪt/ *v* [I] **1** [(**with, in**)] to work together or with someone else, esp. for a special purpose; COOPERATE: *The police and the army collaborated (in catching the terrorists).* | *Our company is collaborating with a German firm in designing a new computer.* [+*to-v*] *The two organizations collaborated to ensure the disease was wiped out.* **2** [(**with**)] *derog* to help an enemy country which has taken control of one's own: *Anyone who had collaborated (with the enemy) was shot.* —**-rator** *n*

—-ration /kəˌlæbəˈreɪʃən/ *n* [U (**with, between**)] : *The two companies are working in close collaboration (with each other).* | *shot for collaboration with the enemy* **—-rative** /kəˈlæbərətɪv‖-bəreɪtɪv/ *adj* : *a collaborative venture*

col·lab·o·ra·tion·ist /kəˌlæbəˈreɪʃən-ɨst/ *n derog* a person who helps an enemy that has taken control of a country **—-ism** *n* [U]

col·lage /ˈkɒlɑːʒ‖kəˈlɑːʒ/ *n* **1** [C] a picture made by sticking various materials or objects onto a surface **2** [U] the art of making such pictures

col·la·gen /ˈkɒlədʒən‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* [U] a PROTEIN in the cells of the body that is not easily weakened

col·lapse[1] /kəˈlæps/ *v* **1** [I] to fall down or inwards suddenly as a result of pressure or loss of strength or support: *The bridge collapsed under the weight of the train.* **2** [I] to fall helpless or unconscious: *He collapsed at the end of the long race.* | (fig.) *The children* **collapsed with laughter** *when their father fell in the river.* **3** [I] to fail suddenly and completely; break down: *The company collapsed in its first year of trading.* | *All opposition to the government collapsed in the face of the threat of war.* | *He felt as if his whole world had collapsed (about him) when his children were killed in a car crash.* **4** [I; T] to fold into a shape that takes up less space: *This table collapses, so I can store it easily when I'm not using it.* | *Collapse the table and put it away.* **5** [I;T] *med* **a** (of a lung or BLOOD VESSEL) to fall into a flattened mass **b** to cause (a lung or blood vessel) to fall into a flattened mass: *The doctors had to collapse her right lung to save her life.*

collapse[2] *n* **1** [U] (an example of) the act of collapsing: *The storm caused the collapse of the roof.* | *The collapse of the peace talks led to renewed fighting.* | *The country's economy is on the verge of collapse.* **2** [C;U] (an example of) the sudden and complete loss of strength and/or will: *a state of near/utter collapse* | *He suffered from a nervous collapse.*

col·lap·si·ble /kəˈlæpsɨbəl/ *adj* that can be collapsed for easy storing: *a collapsible bicycle*

col·lar[1] /ˈkɒləʳ‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* **1** the part of a shirt, dress, or coat, that stands up or folds down round the neck: *a tight collar* | *What size (of) collar is this shirt?* | *a coat with a fur collar* **2** a band put round an animal's neck: *Where are the dog's collar and lead?* **3** a round leather object put round the shoulders of a horse to help it pull a vehicle **4** *tech* a coloured marking round an animal's neck **5** any of various ring-like machine parts **6 hot under the collar** angry or excited: *He got hot under the collar when he realised they were criticising his report.* —see also BLUE-COLLAR, DOG COLLAR, WHITE-COLLAR

collar[2] *v* [T] *infml* to seize; catch and hold: *The police collared him as he was getting on the boat.* | (fig.) *He was collared by some journalists as he left his office.*

col·larbone /ˈkɒləbəʊn‖ˈkɑːlər-/ also **clavicle** *med— n* either of a pair of bones joining the RIBS to the front of the shoulders —see picture at SKELETON

col·lards /ˈkɒlədz‖ˈkɑːlərdz/ **collard greens** /ˌ·· ˈ·/— *n* [P] a vegetable with green leaves, cooked and eaten as food, esp. in the southern US

collar stud /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a small buttonlike object for fastening a collar to a shirt

col·late /kəˈleɪt/ *v* [T] **1** *fml* to examine and compare (copies of books, notes, etc.) carefully in order to find the differences between them: *to collate two ancient manuscripts* **2** *tech* to arrange (the sheets) of (a book) in the proper order before they are bound together

col·lat·e·ral[1] /kəˈlætərəl/ *n* [S;U] *tech* valuable property promised to a lender if one is unable to repay a debt; SECURITY (4): *He used/put up/offered his house as (a) collateral for the loan.*

collateral[2] *adj fml or tech* **1** additional, but with less importance; SECONDARY: *A collateral aim of the government's industrial strategy is to increase employment.* | *The bombs were aimed at military targets but there was some collateral damage to civilian areas.* **2** descended from the same person but through different sons or daughters: *Cousins are collateral relatives but brothers are directly related.* **3** of or being COLLATERAL[1]

col·la·tion /kəˈleɪʃən/ *n fml* **1** [U] the act of collating **2** [C] a usu. cold light meal: *a cold collation after the funeral*

col·league /ˈkɒliːg‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* someone who works in the same place, office, etc. as oneself, esp. in a profession: *May I introduce one of my colleagues at the bank?* | *She and I are colleagues.* —compare WORKMATE

col·lect[1] /kəˈlekt/ *v* **1** [I;T (UP)] to come or bring together in one place so as to form a group or mass; gather: *Collect (up) the books and put them in a pile on my desk.* | *A crowd of people collected to watch the procession.* | *The department collects information on political extremists.* **2** [T] to gather (objects) over a long period of time, as a HOBBY, for study, etc.: *John collects foreign coins.* **3** [T] to come to take away: *He collected the children from school.* | *She collected her skirt from the cleaner's.* **4** [I (**for**);T] to ask for or obtain payment of (money, taxes, rent, etc.): *The government is trying to improve the way it collects taxes.* | *We're collecting (money) for the famine victims.* **5** [T] to get control of (oneself, one's senses or feelings, etc.): *I tried to* **collect my thoughts** *but I was too excited.* —see GATHER (USAGE)

col·lect[2] /ˈkɒlɪkt, -lekt‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* a short prayer read near the beginning of certain Christian religious services

collect[3] /kəˈlekt/ *adj, adv AmE* to be paid for by the receiver: *a collect phone call* | *Call me collect as soon as you get home.* | *I sent you the books collect.*

col·lect·able[1] /kəˈlektəbəl/ *adj* fashionable to buy and keep, esp. because of being likely to increase in value: *Thirties' pottery figures are very collectable just now.*

collectable[2] *n AmE* an object to be put in a collection, esp. something made for that purpose or which is old or rare: *That record is a collectable.*

col·lect·ed /kəˈlektɨd/ *adj* having control of oneself, one's thoughts, senses, etc.; calm: *How can you stay so* **cool, calm, and collected** *after an argument?* — **~ly** *adv*

col·lec·tion /kəˈlekʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the act or process of collecting: *The local council is responsible for the collection of domestic waste.* | *He made arrangements for the collection of his baggage from the airport.* **2** [C (**of**)] a set of things of the same type that have been collected: *a wealthy family with a magnificent art collection* | *I'll add it to my stamp collection.* | *Her new book is a collection of short stories.* **3** [C] an act of collecting money e.g. at a religious service: *to take round the collection plate in church* | *to organize a collection for charity* | *His workmates held/made a collection for his leaving party.* **4** [C (**of**) *usu. sing.*] a group, pile, etc., that has gathered together: *a collection of dust in the corner* | *an unusual collection of people at the party* **5** [C] *esp. BrE* the emptying of a letterbox by a postman: *What time is the next collection?* —see also COLLECTOR

col·lec·tive[1] /kəˈlektɪv/ *adj* of or shared by a number of people or groups of people considered as one or acting as one: *the collective opinion of the governments of Western Europe* | *collective ownership/leadership* — **~ly** *adv* : *We were collectively responsible for the accident.*

collective[2] *n* a group of people working together for their shared advantage, esp. a business owned and controlled by the people who work in it

collective bar·gain·ing /ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n* [U] discussions between employers and employees in order to reach agreement on wages, working conditions, etc.

collective farm /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* (esp. in Communist countries) a large farm made by joining a number of small farms together, owned by the state, and controlled by the farm workers

collective noun /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n tech* (in grammar) a noun, such as "committee" or "family", that is the name of a group of people or things considered as a unit. In the singular a collective noun can be followed either by a singular verb or (esp. in British English) by a plural verb, so in this dictionary collective nouns are marked [+*sing./pl. v*].

collective re·spon·si·bil·i·ty /ˌ·· ···ˈ···/ *n* [U] responsibility shared equally by a group of people: *Society has a collective responsibility to ensure the elderly are cared for.*

col·lec·tor /kəˈlektəʳ/ *n* (*often in comb.*) **1** a person employed to collect taxes, tickets, debts, etc.: *a rent collector* **2** a person who collects stamps, coins, etc., as a HOBBY: *a stamp collector*

collector's i·tem /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* an object of interest to COLLECTORS (2) because of its beauty or rarity

col·leen /ˈkɒliːn, kɒˈliːn‖kɑːˈliːn, ˈkɑːliːn/ *n IrE* a girl

col·lege /ˈkɒlɪdʒ‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* **1** [C;U] a place where people go for more advanced education after school, esp. in a particular subject or professional skill: *a teacher(s') training college | an agricultural college | He's at law college|art college. | She started college last year. | my college scarf* —see also SIXTH FORM COLLEGE; see THE (USAGE) **2** [C] (esp. in Britain) a body of teachers and students forming a separate part of certain universities: *a member of one of the Oxford colleges | King's College Cambridge* **3** [C;U] *AmE* a school for higher education giving a BACHELOR'S DEGREE and possibly a MASTER'S degree and DOCTORATE —see also JUNIOR COLLEGE and see also extra information on page 408 **4** [C] (in Britain) any of certain large schools **5** [C] the building or buildings used by any of these educational organizations: *The college is next to the station.* **6** [C+*sing./pl. v*] the teachers and students of a college considered as a whole **7** [C] a body of people with a (stated) common profession, purpose, duty, or right: *She's a member of the Royal College of Nursing.| the electoral college*

college boards /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* [P] a set of examinations which students must take in order to enter an American college or university. They include the SAT.

College of Arms /ˌ·· · ˈ·/ also **College of Her·alds** /ˌ·· · ˈ··/— [*the*] the organization which decides on the coats of arms (COAT OF ARMS) of British families and institutions

col·le·gi·ate /kəˈliːdʒiət/ *adj* **1** of or belonging to a college or college students: *collegiate sports | a collegiate theatre* **2** having COLLEGES (2): *a collegiate university*

collegiate church /·ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* a Christian church (not a CATHEDRAL) with more than one regular priest or MINISTER

col·lide /kəˈlaɪd/ *v* [I (**with**)] **1** to crash violently: *The two planes collided (with each other) in midair.* **2** to come into disagreement; be opposed: *The President collided with Congress over his budget plans.* —see also COLLISION

col·lie /ˈkɒli‖ˈkɑːli/ *n* a large long-haired dog used for looking after sheep or kept as a pet —see picture at DOG

col·li·er /ˈkɒliəʳ‖ˈkɑː-/ *n esp. BrE* **1** *fml or old-fash* a person employed to cut coal in a mine; coal MINER **2** a ship for carrying coal

col·lie·ry /ˈkɒljəri‖ˈkɑːl-/ *n esp. BrE* a COALMINE and the buildings, machinery, etc., connected with it

Col·lins /ˈkɒlɪnz‖ˈkɑː-/, **Jack·ie** (1941–) an English writer of popular NOVELS, esp. about the lives of rich and fashionable people, e.g. in Hollywood. She is the sister of Joan Collins.

Collins, Joan /dʒəʊn/ (1933–) an English actress who has appeared in many films, and is known esp. for playing the part of Alexis Carrington in the American television SOAP OPERA *Dynasty*. She is the sister of Jackie Collins.

Collins, Ju·dy /ˈdʒuːdi/ (1939–) an American popular music singer whose best-known songs are *Amazing Grace* and *Send in the Clowns*

Collins, Mi·chael /ˈmaɪkəl/ (1890–1922) an Irish NATIONALIST and Sinn Fein member who took part in the Easter Rising in Dublin in 1916

Collins, Phil /fɪl/ (1951–) an English popular music singer, songwriter, and drummer

Collins, Wil·kie /ˈwɪlki/ (1824–89) an English writer of many NOVELS, esp. known for *The Moonstone*, considered to be the first English mystery novel, and *The Woman in White*

col·li·sion /kəˈlɪʒən/ *n* [C;U (**between, with**)] (an example of) the act of colliding (COLLIDE): *Three people were killed in a head-on collision between a bus and a car. | a collision of principles|interests*

collision course /·ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* [(**with**)] a course (of movement or action) likely to end in collision: *The employers' organization is on a collision course with the unions.*

col·lo·cate /ˈkɒləkeɪt‖ˈkɑː-/ *v* [I (**with**)] *tech* (of words) to go together or with another word in a way which sounds natural: *"Strong" collocates with "coffee" but "powerful" does not. | The words "strong" and "coffee" collocate.*

col·lo·ca·tion /ˌkɒləˈkeɪʃən‖ˌkɑː-/ *n tech* **1** [U] the way in which some words regularly collocate with others **2** [C] a habitual combination of words which sounds natural: *"Strong coffee" is a typical collocation in English but "powerful coffee" is not.*

col·loid /ˈkɒlɔɪd‖ˈkɑː-/ *n tech* a mixture of substances in which one substance is thoroughly spread, but not dissolved (DISSOLVE) in another —compare SOLUTION (2), SUSPENSION

col·lo·qui·al /kəˈləʊkwiəl/ *adj* (of words, phrases, style, etc.) of or suitable for ordinary, informal, or familiar conversation; not formal or special to literature: *"I'm going nuts" is a colloquial expression.* —**~ly** *adv*

col·lo·qui·al·is·m /kəˈləʊkwiəlɪzəm/ *n* an expression used in, or suitable for, ordinary, informal, or familiar conversation: *"Nuts" meaning "mad" is a colloquialism.*

col·lo·quy /ˈkɒləkwi‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* [(**with, between**)] *fml or old use* a formal conversation

col·lude /kəˈluːd/ *v* [I (**with**)] *fml or law* to act together or with someone else in collusion: *He is accused of colluding with the terrorists to supply them with explosives.*

col·lu·sion /kəˈluːʒən/ *n* [U (**between, with**)] *esp. fml or law* secret agreement between two or more people with the intention of cheating or deceiving others: *One of the employees acted in collusion with the bank robbers.* —**-sive** /ˈluːsɪv/ *adj*

col·ly·wob·bles /ˈkɒliˌwɒbəlz‖ˈkɑːliˌwɑː-/ *n* [*the*+P] *BrE infml* a slight stomach-ache usu. caused by nervousness: *The thought of my driving test gives me the collywobbles.*

Col·man's /ˈkəʊlmənz/, **Colman's of Nor·wich** /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ *n tdmk* a company which makes different types of MUSTARD; it is best known for its yellow English mustard

co·logne /kəˈləʊn/ also **eau de cologne**— *n* [U] a sweet-smelling liquid used to make one feel fresh and smell pleasant; light PERFUME

Cologne a city in Germany on the river Rhine. It is a port and an industrial centre. It was heavily bombed during the Second World War.

Co·lom·bi·a /kəˈlɒmbiə‖-ˈlʌm-/ a country in NW South America which has coastline on both the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea; capital Bogotá; population 31,193,000 (1989). —**-bian** *n, adj*

►CULTURAL NOTE COCAINE is produced illegally in Colombia and the country has difficulties controlling the drug trade.◄

Co·lom·bo /kəˈlʌmbəʊ/ the capital city and main port of Sri Lanka

co·lon[1] /ˈkəʊlən/ *n med* the LARGE INTESTINE (=the lower part of the bowels) in which food changes into solid waste matter and passes into the RECTUM

colon[2] *n* the sign (:) used in writing and printing to introduce an explanation, example, QUOTATION, etc. —compare SEMICOLON and see picture at PUNCTUATION MARK

colo·nel /ˈkɜːnl‖ˈkɜːr-/ *n* an army or airforce rank —see TABLE 3

Colonel Blimp /ˌ·· ˈ·/ also **Blimp**— *n BrE derog* an old man with old-fashioned and very CONSERVATIVE political ideas, who has an unreasonably high opinion of his own importance

Colonel Bo·gey /ˌ·· ˈ··/ a military march written by Major F.J. Ricketts

Colonel San·ders /ˌkɜːnl ˈsɑːndəz‖ˌkɜːrnl ˈsændərz/ the name of the man who developed the RECIPE for the fried chicken sold by the FAST-FOOD restaurant called **Colonel Sanders' Kentucky Fried Chicken**. His name is often used instead of the whole name of the restaurant. He is shown in advertisements as an older Southern American gentleman because fried chicken is a special dish of the South of the US.

co·lo·ni·al[1] /kəˈləʊniəl/ *adj* **1** [*no comp.*] of or having colonies (COLONY): *Britain was once a major colonial power.| The people of Africa have successfully fought against colonial rule.* **2** [*no comp.*] (*often cap.*) connected with or made in America when it was a British COLONY: *colonial furniture | a beautiful old colonial house near Boston* **3** describing a style of 18th and early 19th century building in the US that was influenced by Georgian and old Greek and Roman buildings —see colour picture on page 227 **4** *infml derog* typical of a COLONIAL[2]: *a colonial mentality*

colonial[2] *n* a person who is living or has lived in a COLONY but is not a member of the original population. The STEREOTYPE of a colonial is of an UPPER-CLASS older person

(if a man, with a MOUSTACHE), who has strong RIGHT-WING opinions.

co·lo·ni·al·is·m /kə'ləʊniəlɪzəm/ *n* [U] *now often derog* the principle or practice of having colonies (COLONY) abroad: *British colonialism led to the establishment of a large empire.* —compare IMPERIALISM, NEOCOLONIALISM

co·lo·ni·al·ist /kə'ləʊniəlɨst/ *n, adj* (a supporter) of colonialism: *a nation with colonialist ambitions*

col·o·nist /'kɒlənɨst‖'kɑː-/ *n* a person who settled in a new colony soon after it was established: *the American colonists of the 17th century*

col·o·nize also **-nise** *BrE* /'kɒlənaɪz‖'kɑː-/ *v* [T] to establish a colony in (a country, area, etc.): *The British first colonized Australia in the 18th century.* —**-nizer** *n* —**-nization** /ˌkɒlənaɪ'zeɪʃən‖ˌkɑːlənə-/ *n* [U] : *the colonization of Africa*

col·on·nade /ˌkɒlə'neɪd‖ˌkɑː-/ *n* a row of COLUMNS (=upright stone posts) usu. supporting a roof or row of arches —**-naded** *adj*

col·o·ny /'kɒləni‖'kɑː-/ *n* **1** a country or area under the political control of a distant country: *a former French colony in Africa* —see also CROWN COLONY, DOMINION (2), PROTECTORATE **2 a** (the area settled by) a group of people who leave their own country to live in another place and usu. remain citizens of their own country **b** *AmE* one of the 13 settlements in the US which formed the original United States: *Connecticut was one of the 13 original colonies.* **3** [+*sing./pl. v*] a group of people from the same country or with the same interests, profession, etc., living together: *the French colony in Saigon | an artists' colony | a nudist colony* **4** [+*sing./pl. v*] a group of the same kind of animals or plants living or growing together: *a colony of ants|bacteria*

col·or /'kʌlə^{r}/ *AmE for* COLOUR

Col·o·ra·do /ˌkɒlə'rɑːdəʊ◂‖ˌkɑːlə'ræ-/ *written abbrev.* **CO**— a mountainous state in the Western US, whose capital city is Denver. It is popular with Americans for both winter and summer holidays. —see colour map on pages 1374-5

col·o·ra·do bee·tle /ˌ···· '··/ also **potato beetle**— *n* a small black and yellow insect that attacks potato plants

Colorado Riv·er /ˌ···· '··/ a large river in the US which flows through several states and the Grand Canyon —see colour map on pages 1374-5

col·o·ra·tion /ˌkʌlə'reɪʃən/ *n* [U] arrangement of colours; colouring

col·o·ra·tu·ra /ˌkɒlərə'tʊərə, -'tjʊ-‖ˌkʌ-/ *n* **1** [U] fast difficult musical passages in singing **2** [C] a woman, esp. a SOPRANO, who sings such music

color line /'·· ·/ *n AmE for* COLOUR BAR

co·los·sal /kə'lɒsəl‖kə'lɑː-/ *adj* extremely large: *It requires government spending on a colossal scale. | a colossal building* —~**ly** *adv*

Col·os·se·um /ˌkɒlə'siːəm‖ˌkɑːl-/ , **Coliseum** [*the*] the AMPHITHEATRE in Rome built in the first century AD and now one of the most famous of all Roman remains

co·los·sus /kə'lɒsəs‖kə'lɑː-/ *n* **-suses** *or* **-si** /-saɪ/ a person or thing of great size or importance: *an intellectual colossus like Leonardo | The book makes clear that even when he was being wrong, Freud bestrides all his contemporaries like a colossus.*

Colossus of Rhodes /·ˌ·· · '·/ [*the*] a famous STATUE of Apollo which, according to the old story, stood with one leg on either side of the entrance to the island of Rhodes, and ships passed underneath it. It was one of the Seven Wonders of the World, and was destroyed by an EARTHQUAKE.

col·our[1] *BrE* ‖ **color** *AmE* /'kʌlə^{r}/ *n* **1** [U] the quality in objects which allows the eyes to see the difference between (for example) a red flower and a blue flower when both are the same size and shape: *The book has illustrations in colour. | These insects can change colour. | a colour television* **2** [C] red, blue, green, black, brown, yellow, white, etc.: *"What colour is the paint you bought?" "It's red." | "What colour did you paint the door?" "I painted it red."* **3** [S;U] the general appearance of a person's skin, esp. as this shows the state of their health: *He lost colour* (=became pale) *during his illness. | The fever gave her a* **high colour.** (=a lot of colour) | *The cold wind brought colour to her cheeks.* (=made them red) **4** [C] the colour of a person's skin showing which race they belong to: *people of all colours* (=black, brown, white, etc.) —see also COLOURED **5** [U] details or behaviour of a place, thing, or person, that interest the mind or eye and excite the imagination; character: *She loved the life, noise, and colour of the market. | The lecturer told a few jokes and anecdotes* **to add colour to** *his talk.* —see also LOCAL COLOUR **6 give/lend colour to** to make (something, esp. something unusual) appear likely or true: *Her wet hair lent colour to her claim that she had fallen into the lake.* **7 off colour** *infml* not in good health: *You look a little off colour today.* **8 see the colour of someone's money** *infml* to have clear proof that someone has enough money to pay: *I don't trust him to pay us – I want to see the colour of his money first.* —see also COLOURS, OFF COLOUR, PRIMARY COLOUR

colour[2] *BrE* ‖ **color** *AmE*— *v* **1** [T] to cause (something) to have colour, esp. with a CRAYON or pencil rather than a brush: *The little boy coloured the picture.* [+*obj*+*adj*] *She colours her hair red.* **2** [I] to take on colour or change colour: *The leaves have already started to colour; it will soon be winter. | He coloured with embarrassment.* **3** [T] to give a special effect or feeling to (a person, event, etc.); influence in a personal way: *Personal feelings coloured his judgment. | a highly-coloured account of his difficulties*
colour sthg. ↔ **in** *phr v* [T] to put colour into (an area or shape): *The child coloured in the houses, but left the sky white.*

colour bar /'·· ·/ also **color line** *AmE*— *n* the set of laws or social customs in some places which prevents people of different colours from mixing freely

colour-blind /'·· ·/ *adj* unable to see the difference between (certain) colours: *He's red|green colour-blind.* —**colour blindness** /'·· ˌ··/ *n* [U]

colour code /'·· ·/ *v* [T] to mark (several similar items) with different colours so as to make it easy to see the difference between them: *The tickets were colour-coded according to price.*

col·oured[1] *BrE* ‖ **colored** *AmE* /'kʌləd‖-ərd/ *adj* **1** having colour, esp. as opposed to white, or black and white: *coloured sheets | coloured photographs* **2** (*in comb.*) having the stated colour: *She wore a cream-coloured|multi-coloured dress. | brightly-coloured tropical birds* **3** (now usu. considered offensive to black people) belonging to a dark-skinned race; black —see BLACK (USAGE)

coloured[2] *BrE* ‖ **colored** *AmE*— *n derog* **1** [*usu. pl.*] (now usu. considered offensive to black people) a person belonging to a dark-skinned race **2** (*often cap.*) a CAPE COLOURED

col·our·fast *BrE* ‖ **colorfast** *AmE* /'kʌləfɑːst‖'kʌlərfæst/ *adj* having colour which will not change or come out in water: *Don't put that shirt in with the rest of the washing – it's not colourfast.* —~**ness** *n* [U]

col·our·ful *BrE* ‖ **colorful** *AmE* /'kʌləfəl‖-lər-/ *adj* **1** brightly coloured; full of colour: *a bird with colourful wings* **2** exciting the senses or imagination; rich in expressive variety or detail: *a colourful period of history | a colourful character | his colourful career as an international journalist*

col·our·ing *BrE* ‖ **coloring** *AmE* /'kʌlərɪŋ/ *n* **1** [C;U] a substance used for giving a special colour to another substance, esp. food; DYE: *These tinned beans contain no* **artificial colouring.** **2** [U] (healthy or ill appearance as shown by) skin colour; COMPLEXION: *People always think I'm ill because of my colouring.*

col·our·ize also **-ise** *BrE* ‖ **colorize** *AmE* /'kʌləraɪz/ *v* [I;T] to add colour to (an old film that was made in black and white): *talk of colorizing Casablanca*

col·our·less *BrE* ‖ **colorless** *AmE* /'kʌlələs‖'kʌlər-/ *adj* **1** without colour: *Water is a colourless liquid.* **2** dull; lacking variety, interest, strong personal character, etc.: *a rather colourless person|town | a colourless existence* **3** having less than usual colour; pale —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

col·ours *BrE* ‖ **colors** *AmE* /'kʌləz‖-ərz/ *n* [P] **1** a special sign, cap, BADGE, etc., worn as a sign of one's club, school, team, etc.: (*BrE*) *He won his colours* (=was chosen for the team) *for football this year.* **2** the official flag of a country, ship, part of the army, etc.: *the regimental colours* **3 one's true colours** one's real (esp. unpleasant)

character, esp. when seen for the first time: *I liked him at first, but now he's shown his true colours|I've seen him in his true colours.* —see also FLYING COLOURS, **sail under false colours** (SAIL²)

colour scheme /'·· ·/ *n* the arrangement of colours in a room, painting, etc.: *an original|interesting colour scheme*

colour sup·ple·ment /'·· ˌ···/ also **colour supp** /'kʌlə ˌsʌp ‖ -ler-/ *infml— n BrE* a magazine printed in colour and given free with a newspaper, esp. a Sunday newspaper

colt /kəʊlt/ *n* a young male horse —compare FILLY

Colt *n tdmk* a kind of PISTOL

colt·ish /'kəʊltɪʃ/ *adj often derog* playful and lively, esp. in an awkward uncontrolled way — ~**ly** *adv* — ~**ness** *n* [U]

Col·trane /kɒl'treɪn‖kəʊl-/, **John** (1926–67) an American JAZZ musician who played the SAXOPHONE. He had a great influence on modern jazz.

Co·lum·bi·a /kə'lʌmbiə/ see DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Columbia Pic·tures /·ˌ··· '··/ also **Columbia** an American film company which produces films for cinema and television

Columbia U·ni·ver·si·ty /·ˌ··· ··'···/ a well-respected private university in New York City, known esp. for its school of JOURNALISM

col·um·bine /'kɒləmbaɪn‖'kɑː-/ *n* a plant with bright downward-hanging flowers

Columbine in PANTOMIME, the woman Harlequin loves

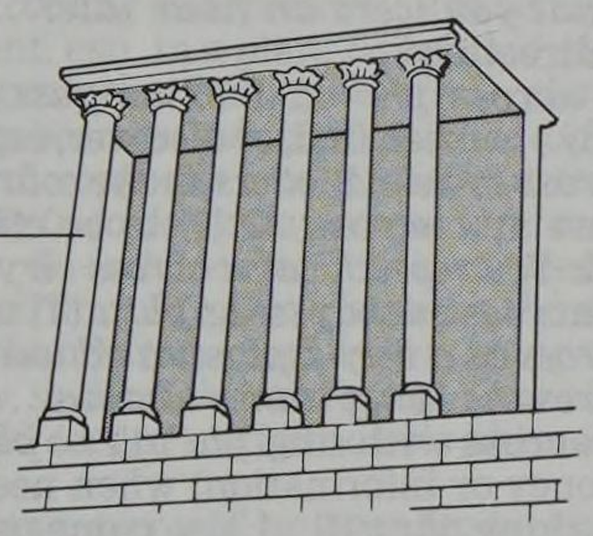
Co·lum·bo /kə'lʌmbəʊ/ an American television SERIES in which the main character, Lieutenant Columbo, is a DETECTIVE in the Los Angeles police department. He is known for always wearing a dirty old raincoat.

Co·lum·bus /kə'lʌmbəs/ the capital city of the state of Ohio in the US

Columbus, Chris·to·pher /'krɪstəfəʳ/ (1451–1506) the Italian NAVIGATOR who was the first European to discover America in 1492, though he mistakenly thought he had found Asia. Many British people are familiar with the RHYME: *In fourteen hundred and ninety two Columbus sailed the ocean blue.* —see colour picture on page 1015

Columbus Day /·'·· ˌ·/ an American public holiday held on October 12 to honour Christopher Columbus

column



col·umn /'kɒləm‖'kɑː-/ *n* **1** a tall solid upright stone post used in a building as a support or decoration or standing alone as a MONUMENT: *a graceful Ionic column* **2** [(**of**)] anything similar to a column in shape, appearance, or use: *a column of smoke | to add up a column of figures* **3** [+*sing./pl. v*] **a** a large number of rows of people, vehicles, etc., following one behind the other: *a column of soldiers* **b** a long line of ships one behind the other **4** one of two or more divisions of a page, lying side by side and separated from each other by a narrow space, in which lines of print are arranged: *There are two columns on each page of this dictionary.* —see also PERSONAL COLUMN **5** an article by a particular writer or on a particular subject, that regularly appears in a newspaper or magazine: *his weekly column in the "New York Times" | the gossip column* —see also FIFTH COLUMN

col·umn·ist /'kɒləmˌɪst, -ləmnˌɪst‖'kɑː-/ *n* a person who writes a newspaper or magazine COLUMN (5)

co·ma /'kəʊmə/ *n* a state of long unnatural deep unconsciousness, from which it is difficult to wake up, caused by disease, poison, a severe blow to the head, etc.: *She went into a coma after swallowing a whole bottle of sleeping pills.* —see also COMATOSE

Co·man·che /kə'mæntʃi/ *n* [C; *the* + P] (a member of) a Native American people who lived in a large area of the SW of the US from the 18th century and were excellent horsemen and fierce fighters —see NATIVE AMERICAN (CULTURAL NOTE)

Com·a·neci /kɒmə'netʃ‖kəʊmə'niːtʃ/, **Na·di·a** /'nɑːdiə/ (1961–) a Romanian GYMNAST who won three GOLD MEDALS in the 1976 Olympic Games

co·ma·tose /'kəʊmətəʊs/ *adj* **1** *tech* in a coma; deeply unconscious **2** *infml* inactive and sleepy; TORPID: *feeling a bit comatose after dinner*

comb¹ /kəʊm/ *n* **1** [C] **a** an object used for tidying, arranging, or straightening the hair usu. consisting of a piece of plastic, metal, bone, etc. with a row of thin teeth **b** an object like this in shape that is worn in a woman's hair as a decoration **2** [C] an object like a comb used for straightening and cleaning wool, cotton, etc. **3** [S] an act of combing: *Your hair needs a good comb.* **4** [C] the red growth of flesh on top of the head of a COCK (=a fully-grown male chicken) **5** [C] a HONEYCOMB —see also FINE-TOOTH COMB

comb² *v* [T] **1** to tidy, arrange, or straighten (esp. the hair) with a comb: *Comb your hair before you go out.* **2** [(**for**)] to search (a place) thoroughly: *The police combed the woods for the missing boy.*

comb out sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T (**from**)] *infml* **1** to find and get rid of (unnecessary people or things): *to reduce costs by combing out unnecessary staff* **2** to remove (twists or KNOTS) from (hair) by combing: *She combed out the knots in the cat's long fur.* —**comb-out** /'· ·/ *n* [S] *infml*: *a comb-out of clerical staff*

comb *written abbrev. for:* **1** combination **2** combined

com·bat¹ /'kɒmbæt‖'kɑːm-/ *n* [C;U (**with, between, against**)] (a) struggle between opposing people or armies: *These troops have very little experience of actual combat. | killed in combat | The knight challenged his enemy to* **single combat.** (=a fight between only two people) | *The two men were* **locked in mortal combat.** (=fighting until the death of one of them) | (fig.) *the combat between good and evil | a combat plane*

com·bat² /'kɒmbæt, kəm'bæt‖kəm'bæt, 'kɑːmbæt/ *v* **-tt-** *BrE* ‖ **-t-** *or* **-tt-** *AmE*— [T] *fml* to fight or struggle against; try to defeat: *The police are now using computers to help combat crime. | new government strategies to combat inflation|drug abuse*

com·ba·tant /'kɒmbətənt‖kəm'bætənt/ *n* a person taking a direct part in fighting: *In the last war as many noncombatants as combatants were killed.* —see also NON-COMBATANT

combat fa·tigue /'·· ·ˌ·/ *n* [U] *tech* BATTLE FATIGUE

com·ba·tive /'kɒmbətɪv‖kəm'bætɪv/ *adj sometimes derog* ready and eager to fight or argue: *a combative spokesman for right-wing policies* — ~**ly** *adv*

comb·er /'kəʊməʳ/ *n* **1** a person or machine that combs wool, cotton, etc. **2** a long curling wave

com·bi·na·tion /ˌkɒmbɪ'neɪʃən‖ˌkɑːm-/ *n* **1** [U] the act of combining or state of being combined: *The two writers worked well in combination.* **2** [C(**of**)] a result of combining; a number of separate things or people that are combined to form a single unit or whole: *An alloy is a combination of two or more different metals. | A combination of high interest rates and falling demand forced the company to close. | Her expression was a combination of guilt and dismay. | Working as a team, the singer and the songwriter proved to be a* **winning combination.** **3** [C] the numbers or letters needed to open a COMBINATION LOCK: *You can't open the safe unless you know the combination.* **4** [C] any of the sets of a stated number of things that can be chosen from a group where their order does not matter: *The three possible combinations of two letters chosen from ABC are AB, BC, and AC.* —compare PERMUTATION; see also COMBINATIONS

combination lock /··'·· ·/ *n* a lock which can only be opened when its control is turned in accordance with a special list of numbers or letters

com·bi·na·tions /ˌkɒmbɪ'neɪʃənz‖ˌkɑːm-/ also **coms** /kɒmz‖kɑːmz/ *BrE infml* ‖ **union suit** *AmE*— *n* [P] a one-

piece usu. woollen undergarment that covers the whole body, worn esp. formerly —see PAIR (USAGE)

com·bine[1] /kəm'baɪn/ *v* **1** [I;T **(with)**] to join together, to form a single unit or whole; unite: *The two countries combined against their common enemy.* | *The three parties combined to form a coalition government.* | *Let's combine my scientific knowledge and your business skills and start a company.* | *The combined effect of low profits and high inflation proved fatal to the company.* | *Low profits, combined with high inflation, proved fatal.* **2** [T **(with)**] to have or do at the same time: *They combined their holiday with a visit to their relatives.* | *to combine business with pleasure* —see MIX (USAGE)

com·bine[2] /'kɒmbaɪn‖'kɑːm-/ *n* **1** [+*sing./pl. v*] a group of people, businesses, etc., joined or acting together: *A large industrial combine is/are reopening the factory.* **2** also **combine harvester** /ˌ·· '···/– a machine that REAPS (=cuts), THRESHes (=separates the seed from the stem), and cleans grain

combining form /·'·· ·/ *n tech* a form of a word that cannot stand alone, but is used with other words to build new ones: *The combining form "Afro-", meaning "African", combines with "American" to make "Afro-American.*

com·bo /'kɒmbəʊ‖'kɑːm-/ *n* **-bos** [C+*sing./pl. v*] *infml* a small band that plays JAZZ or dance music

com·bus·ti·ble[1] /kəm'bʌstɨbəl/ *adj* **1** that can catch fire and burn easily: *Petrol is highly combustible.* —opposite **incombustible** **2** (of a person) easily excited or annoyed

combustible[2] *n* a combustible substance

com·bus·tion /kəm'bʌstʃən/ *n* [U] **1** the process of catching fire and burning **2** *tech* the chemical activity, usu. in the presence of oxygen, that produces light and heat —see also INTERNAL-COMBUSTION ENGINE

come[1] /kʌm/ v **came** /keɪm/, **come** ■ to move or travel **1** [I+*adv/prep*] to move towards the speaker or a particular place: *Come here and look at this.* | *"How did you get here?" "We came by train."* | *He came towards me/through the door.* | *The police came to his rescue.* | *Could you come and see me tomorrow?* | *What time are you coming back?* | *My parents are coming for dinner/coming to have dinner with us.* | *Would you like to come to the concert with me?* [+*v-ing*] *The little girl came running to her mother for sympathy.* | *A man comes to clean the windows every Friday.* —compare GO[1] **2** [I+*adv/prep*] to reach a particular point or place by travelling (over a distance): *They've come hundreds of miles to be here tonight.* | (fig.) *Computer technology has come a long way since the 1970* ■ to arrive at or be in a place or position **3** [I] to arrive, esp. as expected or in the usual course of events: *I've been waiting for hours and he still hasn't come!* | *Christmas is coming soon.* | *The time has come for us to make a decision.* | *We come now to the main business of the meeting.* | *The news came as a great shock to him.* | *The bill could hardly have come at a worse time.* (=this was a very bad time for it to come) | *I'm very busy, but come the new year* (=when the new year arrives) *I'll have more free time.* | *If I don't have the correct tools for the job, I use whatever* **comes to hand.** (=is within reach) | *I never plan ahead; I just take life* **as it comes.** **4** [I+*adv/prep*] to reach: *The water came (up) to my neck.* | *Her hair comes (down) to her waist.* **5** [I+*adv/prep*] to be in a particular place or position in order: *The address should come above the date.* | *Monday comes after Sunday.* | *Your family should always come before* (=be more important than) *your job.* | *She came first in the exam.* (=got the highest marks) ■ to pass into another state **6** [I+*adv/prep*] to arrive at or pass into a particular state or position: *The general came to power in a military coup.* | *The new law comes into effect next month.* | *The government is coming under increasing pressure to change its policies.* | *The new battleship is expected to come into service in 1991.* | *When will this case come to trial/to court?* | *The car skidded off the road and came to rest in a field.* —see also COME **into,** COME **to** **7** [L+*adj*] to become: *The buttons on my coat came undone.* | *His dream of winning a gold medal has come true.* | *Don't worry – it'll all* **come (out) right** *in the end.* —see also COME **apart,** COME **away,** COME **off;** see BECOME (USAGE) **8** [I+*to-v*] to begin as a result of time or experience: *In time you may come to like it here.* | *This is the kind of behaviour we have come to expect of him.* other meanings **9** [**(from)**] to happen: *No good will come from all this.* [+*to-v*] *How did Jean come to be invited to this party?* | *(lit) And so it* **came to pass** (=happened) *that they were married.* | **Come what may** (=whatever happens), *I'm determined to do it.* | (*infml*) **How come** (=how did it happen that) *he didn't find out?* **10** [I+*adv/prep;+adj*] to be offered, produced, sold, etc.: *Shoes come in many shapes and sizes.* | *The car comes complete with a radio and sunroof.* | *Houses like that don't come cheap.* **11** [I] *sl* to have an ORGASM ■ fixed phases **12** Come again? *infml* What did you say? **13 come and go** to pass or disappear quickly; change: *Fashions come and go but this type of dress is always popular.* | *I've got so much to do* **I don't know whether I'm coming or going.** (=used to express hurried and disordered activity) **14 come clean** *infml* to admit to guilt or mistake: *Congressmen in the banking scandal decided to come clean before the electorate.* **15 come it (with/over)** *sl, esp. BrE* to behave with rude disrespect towards someone **16 come to that** *infml* (used when one wants to add something to a remark) actually; in fact: *I haven't seen her for weeks ... or her parents, come to that.* **17 come to think of it** *infml* (used when one wants to add something one has just thought of) when one begins to consider that: ... and he sent me a lovely present. Come to think of it, I must write to thank him. **18 come up and see me sometime** a phrase which is believed to have been said by Mae West as an invitation to a man to come and visit her, with the suggestion that she found him sexually attractive. The phrase is often used humorously now. **19 don't come the** ... *BrE infml* don't act the part of or pretend to be: *Don't come the grand lady with me!* **20 Do you come here often?** see CHAT-UP LINE **21 I came, I saw, I conquered** *quote* a phrase from the writings of Julius Caesar describing how he went to Britain and defeated it. The phrase is often used now, with the words slightly changed: *He came, he fought, he conquered...but Mickey Rourke had better not tear up his Equity card, despite winning his first professional boxing bout.* —see also **veni, vidi, vici** (VENI) **22 years/weeks/days, etc., to come** in the future: *The effects of the drought will be felt for years to come.* | *She was to remember his warning in the days to come.* —see also COMING, **come clean** (CLEAN[1]), **come in from the cold** (COLD[2]), **come a cropper** (CROPPER[2]), **come unstuck** (UNSTUCK) ■ phrasal verbs

come about *phr v* [I] **1** to happen esp. in a way that seems impossible to prevent: *How did this situation come about?* [*it*+I+*that*] *Can you explain how it came about that you were an hour late?* **2** (of a ship) to change direction

come across *phr v* **1** [T *no pass.*] (**come across** sthg./sbdy.) to meet, find, or discover, esp. by chance: *She came across some old letters in the course of her search.* —compare RUN **across** **2** [I] to be effective and well received: *Your speech came across very well.*

come across as sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] to seem to be: *She came across as a very sophisticated woman.* [+*v-ing*] *He came across as being rather nervous.*

come across with sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] *infml* to provide (money or information) when needed

come along *phr v* [I] **1** also **come on–** **a** to advance, develop, or improve, esp. in health: *How's your English coming along?* **b** to improve in health: *Mother's coming along nicely, thank you.* **2** to appear or arrive by chance: *I got the job because I came along at the right time.* | *Take any opportunity that comes along.* **3** also **come on–** to follow: *You go now; I'll come along later.* **4 Come along!** *esp. BrE* ‖ also **come on! a** Make an effort! Try harder!: *Come along, someone must know the answer to my question.* **b** Hurry up!: *Come along – we're late!*

come apart *phr v* [I] to break into pieces without the use of force: *I picked up the old book and it just came apart in my hands.* | (fig.) *The government's whole industrial strategy is* **coming apart at the seams.**

come around *phr v* [I] *esp. AmE for* COME **round**

come at sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] **1** also **come for** sbdy./sthg.– to advance towards in a threatening manner: *She came at me with a knife.* **2** *infml* to reach a knowledge or understanding of: *It was a long time before we came at the truth.*

come away *phr v* [I **(from)**] to become disconnected without being forced: *I only touched the handle and it came away (from the door) in my hand.*

come back *phr v* [I] **1** [**(to)**] to return to memory: *It's all coming back to me now!* **2** [**(IN)**] to become

fashionable or popular again: *Do you think long dresses will ever come back (in)?* **3** [**(at, with)**] to reply in a forceful, often unkind way; RETORT —see also COMEBACK

come between sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] to interrupt or cause trouble between: *John lets nothing come between himself and his work.* | *We mustn't let this silly quarrel come between us.*

come by sthg. *phr v* [T] to obtain or receive; come to have: *Jobs are hard to come by with so many people out of work.* | *That's a nasty bruise – how did you come by it?*

come down *phr v* [I] **1** to fall to a lower level: *The price of oil has come down dramatically.* | *Since Julia lost her job, she's really* **come down in the world.** (=fallen to a lower standard of living) | *John came down in my opinion* (=lost my respect) *after his bad behaviour.* **2** [**(to)**] to be passed on from one period of history to another: *This story has come down to us from ancient times.* **3** [**(from)**] *sl* to stop feeling the effects of a drug that influences the mind **4** [**(from)**] *BrE* to leave a university after a period of study **5 come down in favour of/on the side of** to decide to support, esp. after long thought: *The court came down on the side of the unions.* **6 come down to earth (with a bump)** to return to reality: *He was daydreaming, but he came down to earth with a bump when the teacher twisted his ear.* —see also COMEDOWN

come down on sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] **1** to punish or speak to with severe disapproval: *The courts are going to come down more heavily on young criminals.* **2** [**(for)**] to demand forcefully: *The bank came down on us for immediate payment.*

come down to sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] to mean or be equal to in fact; BOIL **down to:** *What it comes down to is a choice between cutting wages or reducing the number of staff.*

come down with sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] *infml* to catch (an infectious illness): *I think I'm coming down with a cold.*

come forward *phr v* [I] to offer oneself to fill a position, give help to the police, etc.: *Only two people have come forward for election to the committee.* | *No one has come forward with any information about the murder.*

come from sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] to have as a place or point of origin: *I come from Newcastle but I've spent most of my life in London.* | *Milk comes from cows.* | *The passage she quoted comes from Shakespeare.* | *Where's that noise coming from?*

come in *phr v* [I] **1** to arrive or be received: *Reports are coming in of a major earthquake in Mexico.* | *There's very little money coming in at present.* **2** to become necessary or important, esp. in a plan: *I also need someone to persuade my parents that it's a good idea – that's where you come in.* **3** to become fashionable: *When did the short skirt first come in?* —opposite **go out** **4** (of the sea) to rise: *The tide's coming in so don't stay on the sand too long.* —opposite **go out** **5** [*+adv*] to finish in the stated place in a race or competition: *My horse came in third/last.* **6 come in useful/handy** to be useful: *This string may come in useful one day, so don't throw it away.* —see also **come in from the cold** (COLD[2]), **when one's ship comes in** (SHIP[1])

come in for sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] to be given (esp. blame, disapproval, etc.); receive: *The police came in for a lot of criticism over their handling of the strike.*

come into sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** to receive (a sum of money) after someone's death; INHERIT: *He came into a fortune when his mother died.* **2** to begin to be in (a particular state): *to come into fashion* | *to come into existence* | *The town came into sight/view as we turned the corner.* —see also COME[1] (9) **3 come into one's own** to show one's true worth or abilities: *On bad roads, this tough little car really comes into its own.*

come of sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] **1** to result from: *I doubt if any good will come of these peace initiatives.* [*+v-ing*] *The car crashed into a tree – that's what comes of buying cheap tyres!* **2** to be descended from: *She comes of/from a farming family.* **3 come of age** to reach an age (usu. 18 or 21) when one is considered by law to be responsible for oneself and for obedience to the law —see also COMING OF AGE

come off *phr v* **1** [I;T (=**come off** sthg.)] to become unfastened or disconnected (from): *A button came off as I was climbing over the wall.* | *The hook came off the wall when I hung up my coat.* | *Does the lid come off or is it fixed?* **2** [I] to take place; happen: *The wedding came off as planned.* **3** [I] to succeed; have the intended effect: *It was a clever joke but it didn't quite come off.* **4** [I+*adv*] to finish in the stated way; have the stated degree of success: *She came off rather badly in the debate.* **5 Come off it!** *infml* Stop lying or pretending!: *Now come off it – I never said that!*

come on *phr v* [I] **1** to start or appear: *I can feel a headache coming on.* | *There is a storm coming on.* | *What time does that programme come on?* [*+to-v*] (*esp. BrE*) *It came on to rain.* **2** to COME **along** (1, 3) **3 Come on!: a** Try harder! Make an effort!: *Come on, Liverpool!* **b** Hurry up! **c** Cheer up! **d** You know what you just said is not right: *"It'll take at least two hours to do this!" "Oh, come on! I could do it in 20 minutes!"* —see also COME-ON

come out *phr v* [I] **1** to appear: *The stars came out as soon as it was dark.* | *When will her new book come out?* (=be offered for sale) **2** to become clear or publicly known, esp. after being kept secret: *At last the truth has come out.* | *It eventually came out that he had been stealing money from his employers.* **3** (of colour, a mark, etc.) to be removed, esp. by washing; disappear: *I've washed this shirt twice and the ink still hasn't come out.* **4** [*+adv/prep*] to declare oneself publicly, esp. to be in favour of or against a plan, belief, etc.: *The committee has come out strongly against any change in the law.* | *Most of the speakers came out in favour of/in support of these proposals.* **5** [*+adv/prep*] to finish in the stated way or position: *The answer to the sum came out wrong/right.* | *In a series of safety tests, this was the car that came out on top.* **6** (of a photograph) to be successfully developed (DEVELOP): *Our holiday photos didn't come out.* **7** to declare oneself openly (e.g. to one's family and friends) to be a HOMOSEXUAL **8** *BrE* to refuse to work; STRIKE: *The teachers are coming out in support of their pay claim.* **9** *becoming rare* (of a young lady of the upper classes) to be formally introduced in upper-class society, usu. at a dance: *Amanda is coming out next spring.* | *debutantes at a coming-out party*

come out in sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] to become partly covered by (marks caused by an illness or disease): *Jean has come out in spots so she's staying in bed.* —see also OUTCOME

come out with sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] *infml* to say, esp. suddenly or unexpectedly: *John came out with a really stupid remark.*

come over *phr v* **1** [I (**to, from**)] to come after travelling a long distance: *When did you first come over to England?* **2** [I] to make a short informal visit: *Come over and see us sometime.* **3** [I] to be effective and well received; COME **across**: *Your talk came over very well.* **4** [I (**to**)] to change sides or opinions, esp. so as to join the speaker's side **5** [T (=**come over** sbdy.) *no pass.*] (of a sudden strong feeling) to take hold of (someone) suddenly and strangely: *A feeling of faintness came over me, so I had to lie down.* | *(humor) What's come over him? He's quite polite today!* (=this is very unusual) **6** [L+*adj*] *infml, esp. BrE* (esp. followed by adjectives of feeling or illness) to become: *I suddenly came over a bit queasy, so I had to lie down.*

come round *BrE*‖**come around** *AmE*– *phr v* [I] **1** also **come to**– to regain consciousness **2** [**(to)**] to change sides or opinions: *He'll soon come round to our way of thinking.* **3** to happen as usual: *Christmas will soon be coming round again.* **4** to become calmer after being in a bad temper: *Leave him alone and he'll soon come round.* **5** to make a short informal visit to someone who lives nearby

come through *phr v* **1** [I] (esp. of news, results, etc.) to become publicly known: *Have your examination results come through yet?* | *News has just come through that the man has been caught.* **2** [I;T (=**come through** (sthg.)) *no pass.*] to continue to live or exist after (a difficult or dangerous event or situation); SURVIVE: *The driver had lost so much blood that he was lucky to come through (the operation).*

come to sbdy./sthg. *phr v* **1** [T *no pass.*] to arrive at a particular state or position: *At last the war came to an end.* | *It has* **come to my attention/my notice** *that some money is missing.* | *We* **came to the conclusion** *that she was telling the truth.* | *I'll come straight to the point – when do you want the money?* | *All this sex and violence on the TV – what is the world coming to?* (=shows disapproval and anxiety) —see also COME[1] (9) **2** [T] to amount to: *The bill came to £5.50.* **3** [T+*obj*/v-ing; no pass.] to concern: *When it comes to politics*/to repairing cars I know nothing. **4** [T *no pass.*] to enter the mind, esp. suddenly: *I*

can't remember her name now – it'll come to me later. **5 come to oneself: a** to regain self-control **b** to regain consciousness **6 have something coming to one** to receive (something deserved, esp. something bad): *He thinks he's got away with it, but he's got a big surprise coming to him!* –see also **come to grief** (GRIEF), **come to grips with** (GRIP[2]), **come to heel** (HEEL[1]), **come to life** (LIFE)

come under sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] **1** to be governed or controlled by: *This comes under the jurisdiction of the Education Secretary.* **2** to be able to be found below or after (a key word, HEADING, etc.): *What section does this come under?* –see also COME[1] (9), **come under the hammer** (HAMMER[1])

come up *phr v* [I] **1** to come to attention or consideration: *Your question came up at the meeting.* –compare BRING **up** (2) **2** to happen in the course of time, esp. unexpectedly: *I'll let you know if anything comes up.* | *I'll be late home – something's just come up at work.* **3** to come near, esp. by walking; APPROACH: *He came up and asked me if I knew the time.* **4 come up in the world** to reach a higher standard of living or social class

come up against sthg./sbdy. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] to meet (usu. a difficulty or opposition); ENCOUNTER: *They came up against a number of unexpected problems.*

come upon sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] to COME **across** (1)

come up to sthg. *phr v* [T] to equal: *Your recent work hasn't come up to your usual high standards.*

come up with sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] *infml* to think of (a plan, reply, etc.); produce: *The airline has come up with a novel solution to the problem of jet-lag.*

come[2] *interj* (an expression of not very strong disapproval): *Come, come! You can't expect me to believe that!*

come·back /ˈkʌmbæk/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] **1** a return to a former position of strength, importance, or high position, after a period of absence: *The old actor* **made/staged a** *successful* **comeback** *after twenty years.* **2** a clever quick reply; RETORT –see also COME **back**

Com·e·con /ˈkɒmikɒn‖ˈkɑːmikɑːn/ [*the*] the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance; an organization of Communist countries, whose aim was to encourage trade and friendly relations among its members. It broke up in 1991.

Come Danc·ing /ˌ· ˈ··/ a British television programme in which COUPLES and teams compete in a BALLROOM DANCING competition

co·me·di·an /kəˈmiːdiən/ **co·me·di·enne** /kəˌmiːdiˈen/ *fem.– n* **1** a person, esp. a professional entertainer, who tells jokes or does amusing things to make people laugh **2** an actor who plays funny parts in plays or films

come·down /ˈkʌmdaʊn/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] *infml* **1** a fall in importance, rank, or respect: *She used to have a big car, so she finds it a bit of a comedown to have to go everywhere by bus.* **2** an ANTICLIMAX: *After such a wonderful holiday it was rather a comedown to have to start work again.* – see also COME **down**

com·e·dy /ˈkɒmədi‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* **1** [C;U] a (type of) funny play, film, or other work in which the story and characters are amusing and which ends happily: *Shakespeare's comedies* | *Do you prefer comedy or tragedy?* | *a comedy show on TV* **2** [U] the amusing quality of something; HUMOUR: *At last he saw the comedy of the situation and laughed.* –see also BLACK COMEDY, LOW COMEDY, SITUATION COMEDY

Comedy of Er·rors /ˌ··· · ˈ··/, **The** an amusing play by Shakespeare involving two sets of TWINS (= children born to the same mother at the same time) which leads to mistakes (errors) and misunderstandings

comedy of man·ners /ˌ··· · ˈ··/ *n* a comedy that provides amusement by making the behaviour and fashions of a particular group look foolish

come-hith·er /ˌ· ˈ··/ *adj* [A] *infml* sexually inviting: *come-hither eyes* | *a come-hither look*

come·ly /ˈkʌmli/ *adj lit* attractive; having a pleasing appearance: *a comely young woman* –**liness** *n* [U]

come-on /ˈ· ·/ *n* **1** *infml, esp. AmE* an attraction to persuade people to buy particular goods **2 give someone the come-on** *sl* (esp. of a woman) to behave in a sexually exciting way towards: *She gave me the come-on as soon as her husband was out of the room.* –see also COME **on**

com·er /ˈkʌməʳ/ *n infml* **1** (*often in comb.*) a person who comes or arrives: *a latecomer at the party* | *newcomers to our town* | *serving drinks to all comers* **2** *esp. AmE* a person who appears to be very successful or likely to succeed

co·mes·ti·ble /kəˈmestɨbəl/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] *fml or humor* something to be eaten as food

com·et /ˈkɒmɨt‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* an object in space that moves round the sun in a long ELLIPTICAL path and has a very bright head and a long tail. The most well-known comet is Halley's comet.

come-up·pance /ˌkʌm ˈʌpəns/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] *infml* a well-deserved punishment or misfortune; one's DESERTS: *He'll get his come-uppance one of these days.*

com·fit /ˈkʌmfɨt/ *n old use* a sweet covered in sugar with a fruit or nut centre

com·fort[1] /ˈkʌmfət‖-ərt/ *n* **1** [U] the state of being free from anxiety, pain, or suffering, and of having all one's physical needs satisfied: *to live in comfort* **2** [C] something that satisfies one's physical needs: *all the comforts of modern civilization* **3** [C;U] (a person or thing that gives) strength, hope, or sympathy for an unhappy person: *My husband was a great comfort to me when our son was ill.* | *The priest spoke a few words of comfort to the dying man.* | *We can* **take comfort from** *the fact that the situation is not actually getting worse.* | *to offer someone a crumb* (=a very small bit) *of comfort* **4 tidings of comfort and joy** a phrase from a CAROL (a religious song sung at Christmas) –see also COLD COMFORT, CREATURE COMFORTS, DISCOMFORT – ~**less** *adj fml*: *a grey, comfortless day*

comfort[2] *v* [T] to give COMFORT[1] (3) to: *I tried to comfort Jean after her mother's death.* | *comforting words* – ~**ingly** *adv*

Comfort *n* [U] *tdmk* a type of FABRIC CONDITIONER made by Lever Brothers Limited

comfor·ta·ble /ˈkʌmftəbəl, ˈkʌmfət-‖ˈkʌmfərt-, ˈkʌmft-/ *adj* **1** providing comfort: *a comfortable chair|room|pair of shoes|income* | *They still have a comfortable lead over their rivals.* **2** feeling comfort, esp. not experiencing (too much) pain, grief, anxiety, etc.: *The doctor said that mother was comfortable after her operation.* | *Are you comfortable on that hard stool?* | *I won't be comfortable until I know what happened.* **3** having enough money to be free of worry; not poor: *We're not rich but we're fairly comfortable.* –see also UNCOMFORTABLE –**-bly** *adv* : *comfortably ensconced in an armchair*

comfortably off /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *adj* [F] fairly rich

com·fort·er /ˈkʌmfətəʳ‖-fər-/ *n* **1** a person who gives comfort **2** *old use* a length of usu. woollen cloth worn around the neck to keep it warm; SCARF **3** *AmE for* QUILT –see also JOB'S COMFORTER

comfort sta·tion /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n AmE euph for* PUBLIC CONVENIENCE

com·fy /ˈkʌmfi/ *adj infml* comfortable: *a comfy chair*

com·ic[1] /ˈkɒmɪk‖ˈkɑː-/ *adj* **1** causing laughter; humorous: *a comic performance* **2** [A *no comp.*] of COMEDY: *a comic actress|writer* –compare TRAGIC

comic[2] *n* **1** also **comic book** *AmE*– a magazine for children containing COMIC STRIPS. Famous comics include *The Beano* and *The Dandy* (in Britain) and *Marvel* comic books (in the US): *comic-book heroes such as Superman and Batman* **2** a person who is funny, esp. a professional COMEDIAN: *a stand-up comic* –see also COMICS

com·i·cal /ˈkɒmɪkəl‖ˈkɑː-/ *adj* funny, esp. in an odd or unexpected way: *a comical hat* – ~**ly** /kli/ *adv*

comic op·e·ra /ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n* an OPERA with an amusing story, speaking as well as singing, and usu. a happy ending

Comic Re·lief /ˌ·· ·ˈ·/ a British CHARITY organization set up and run by a group of professional COMEDIANS to raise money for poor and disadvantaged people in the world, esp. Africa. It collects money on one day a year, when people are encouraged to telephone a special television programme and promise an amount of money and to wear amusing red noses in support of the charity. Some people also buy red noses to put on the front of their cars.

com·ics /ˈkɒmɪks‖ˈkɑː-/ also **funnies**– *n* [*the*+P] *esp. AmE* the part of a newspaper containing COMIC STRIPS. On Sundays, American newspapers usu. include a separate section of comics, in colour: *I always read the comics before the political news.*

comic strip /ˈ·· ·/ also **strip cartoon** *BrE*– *n* a set of drawings telling a short story, often with words showing the speech of the characters in the pictures –compare CARTOON

com·ing[1] /ˈkʌmɪŋ/ *n* **1** [S] arrival: *With the coming of winter the days get shorter.* **2 comings and goings** *infml* acts of arriving and leaving: *We watched the comings and goings of the guests from our bedroom window.*

coming[2] *adj* [A] **1** that is coming or will come: *during the coming months* **2** *infml* likely to succeed: *a coming young man* –see also UP-AND-COMING

coming of age /ˌ·· ·ˈ·/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] the 18th birthday of a person, when they become legally an adult. At 18 British people are allowed to vote in elections, get married without the permission of their parents, and buy and drink alcohol in a PUB. In the US, either the 18th or 21st birthday might be thought of as a coming of age; at 18 people are allowed to vote and get married, but in many states you cannot buy alcohol until you are 21. –see also **come of age** (COME **of**)

com·i·ty /ˈkɒmɨti‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* [C;U] *fml rare* (a society built on) friendly polite behaviour

comity of na·tions /ˌ··· · ˈ··/ *n* [U] *law* the respect and friendship shown by countries for each other, esp. as regards each other's laws, customs, and systems of government

com·ma /ˈkɒmə‖ˈkɑːmə/ *n* the mark (,) used in writing and printing for showing a short pause –see also INVERTED COMMA and see picture at PUNCTUATION MARK

com·mand[1] /kəˈmɑːnd‖kəˈmænd/ *v* **1** [T] to tell (someone) to do something, with the right to be obeyed; formally order, esp. as a military leader: *Do as I command (you).* [+*obj*+*to-v*] *The general commanded his men to attack the city.* [+*that*] *He commanded that we (should) attack at once.* –see ORDER (USAGE) **2** [I;T] to be in a position of control (over), esp. as a military leader: *General Carter commands the Parachute Regiment.* | *He is not fit to command.* **3** [T] to deserve and get: *to command respect* | *She can command a high fee for her services.* | *His paintings command a high price these days.* | *The proposals command wide support in Congress.* **4** [T] to control (a place) from above: *This hill fort commands the whole valley.* | (fig.) *The house commands* (=looks down on) *a fine view of the sea.* **5** [T] *fml* to be able to use; have at one's service: *The company commands considerable resources.*

command[2] *n* **1** [C] an order: *Fire on my command|when I give the command.* **2** [U] the right to command; control: *The army is under the king's direct command.* | *Who is the officer in command?* | *to* **take command** *of an army|a situation* | *the army's command structure* **3** [C+*sing./pl. v*] **a** a military unit under separate control: *pilots of the Southern Air Command* **b** a group of officers or officials who give orders: *the German High Command* **4** [S;U] the ability to control and use: *He has a good command of French|an impressive command of the details.* **5** [C] an instruction to a computer to perform a particular operation: *a sequence of commands*

com·man·dant /ˌkɒmənˈdænt‖ˈkɑːməndænt/ *n* the chief officer in charge of a military organization: *the commandant of a prison camp*

command e·con·o·my /·ˈ· ·ˌ···/ *n* an economic system in which production levels are controlled by a central authority

com·man·deer /ˌkɒmənˈdɪəʳ‖ˌkɑː-/ *v* [T] to take (private property) for military use, without needing permission or giving payment: *The soldiers commandeered the house and used it for|as offices.*

com·mand·er /kəˈmɑːndəʳ‖kəˈmæn-/ *n* **1** the officer of any rank who is in charge of a group of soldiers **2** a naval rank – see TABLE 3 and see picture at RANK **3** a British police officer of high rank

commander in chief /·ˌ·· · ˈ·/ *n* an officer in control of all the armed forces of a country, area, etc.: *The Queen is commander in chief of the British armed forces.*

com·mand·ing /kəˈmɑːndɪŋ‖kəˈmæn-/ *adj* **1** [A *no comp.*] having command; in charge: *Who's your commanding officer?* **2** [A] looking down from above: *The castle has a commanding position on a steep hill.* | (fig.) *The Republicans now have a commanding lead in the opinion polls.* **3** producing respect and obedience; AUTHORITATIVE: *a commanding voice|appearance*

com·mand·ment /kəˈmɑːndmənt‖kəˈmænd-/ *n* **1** (*often cap.*) any of the TEN COMMANDMENTS: *to keep the commandments* **2** *lit* a command

command mod·ule /·ˈ· ˌ··/ *n tech* the part of a space vehicle from which operations are controlled

com·man·do /kəˈmɑːndəʊ‖kəˈmæn-/ *n* **-dos** *or* **-does** **1** (a member of) a small fighting force specially trained for making quick attacks into enemy areas **2 the Commandoes** a unit of the British Royal Marines who secretly land in enemy country, usu. from the sea, to prepare the way for the main army. They are generally thought of as being strong and TOUGH (=able to bear the most difficult conditions).

command per·form·ance /·ˌ· ·ˈ··/ *n* a special performance at a theatre given at the request of the head of state

command post /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* (in the military) the place from which a commander and his officers direct operations

com·me·di·a dell'ar·te /kɒˌmeɪdiə del ˈɑːteɪ‖kə-, -ˈɑːrti/ *It* a popular form of COMEDY in Italy from the 16th to 18th century, which used speeches invented by the actors as they acted and MASKS *and which had great influence on European theatre*

comme il faut /ˌkɒm iːl ˈfəʊ‖ˌkɑːm-/ *adj* [F] *Fr* according to correct or established social standards: *You can't wear those old trousers for the wedding – it's absolutely not comme il faut.*

com·mem·o·rate /kəˈmeməreɪt/ *v* [T] **1** to give honour to the memory of, esp. by a public ceremony: *a festival commemorating the 400th anniversary of the birth of Shakespeare* **2** to be in memory of: *This statue commemorates those who died in the war.* **–-ration** /kəˌmeməˈreɪʃən/ *n* [U (**of**)] : *A religious service will be held in commemoration of those who died in the war.* **–-rative** /kəˈmemərətɪv/ *adj* : *a commemorative service|stamp*

com·mence /kəˈmens/ *v* [I;T] *fml or pomp* to begin; start: *If everyone has arrived, the meeting may now commence.* | *We may now commence the meeting.* [+*to-v*|*v-ing*] *Having said he would not make a long speech, he commenced to do|commenced doing exactly that.* –see START (USAGE)

com·mence·ment /kəˈmensmənt/ *n* **1** [C;U (**of**)] *fml* the act of commencing; beginning **2** [C] *AmE* a ceremony at which university, college, or high school students are given their degrees or DIPLOMAS. At a commencement all the students wear special ROBES and caps, and there are usually several speeches, including one by the VALEDICTORIAN of the class.

com·mend /kəˈmend/ *v* [T] *fml* **1** [(**for**)] to speak favourably of; express one's approval of or admiration for: *She was highly commended for her organizational skills.* | *The new grammar book has much to commend it.* **2** [(**to**)] to put (esp. oneself) into the care or charge of someone else; ENTRUST: *The dying man commended his soul|himself to God.*

com·men·da·ble /kəˈmendəbəl/ *adj* worthy of praise: *commendable efforts* **–-bly** *adv*

com·men·da·tion /ˌkɒmənˈdeɪʃən‖ˌkɑː-/ *n* **1** [C (**for**)] an official prize or honour given for a special quality: *a commendation for bravery* **2** [U] *fml* praise; approval

com·men·su·rate /kəˈmenʃərɨt/ *adj* [(**with**)] *fml* **1** equal in size, quality, or length of time; EQUIVALENT **2** suitable; APPROPRIATE: *The salary will be commensurate with your age and experience.*

com·ment[1] /ˈkɒment‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* [C;U (**about, on**)] **1** (a) written or spoken opinion, explanation, or judgment made about an event, person, situation, etc.: *He made several unfavourable comments about their candidate.* | *Some of her criticisms are unreasonable, but most of what she says is* **fair comment. 2 no comment** a phrase used by people in public life to newspaper reporters when they do not want to say anything about a subject: *"Could you confirm the rumours of your resignation, Mr Baker?"–"No comment!"*

comment[2] *v* [I (**on, upon**); T+*that;obj*] to make a comment; give an opinion: *The minister refused|declined to comment on the rumours of his resignation.* | *Jean commented that it was a better play than usual, and I agreed.*

com·men·ta·ry /ˈkɒməntəri‖ˈkɑːmənteri/ *n* [(**on**)] **1** [C] a written collection of opinions, explanations, judgments, etc., on a book, event, person, etc. **2** [C;U] (a) spoken

description (with opinions and explanations) that is broadcast with, and at the same time as, an event, occasion, football match, etc.: *a commentary on the baseball game on TV* | (fig.) *We couldn't see Tom, but Sally gave us* **a running commentary** *on what he was doing.*

com·men·ta·tor /ˈkɒməntеɪtəʳ‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* a broadcaster who gives a commentary, e.g. on a sports match: *a football commentator* —**commentate** *v* [I (**on**)]

com·merce /ˈkɒmɜːs‖ˈkɑːmɜːrs/ *n* [U] **1** the buying and selling of goods and services; trade: *international commerce* **2** *old use* exchange of ideas, opinions, or feelings **3** *old use* SEXUAL INTERCOURSE —see also CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

com·mer·cial[1] /kəˈmɜːʃəl‖-ɜːr-/ *adj* **1** [*no comp.*] of, related to, or used in commerce: *a commercial venture* | *commercial vehicles* | *commercial art and design* (=for advertising, etc.) **2** [A *no comp.*] producing or likely to produce profit: *The film was highly praised, but was not a commercial success.* | *Oil has been found in commercial quantities in the North Sea.* | *Do these discoveries have any commercial value|applications?* **3** *derog* (of records, books, etc.) produced in order to make money, rather than for art: *His new record is much too commercial.* **4** [*no comp.*] (of television or radio) paid for by charges made for advertising —~**ly** *adv* : *The new drug is not yet commercially available.*

commercial[2] *n* an advertisement on television or radio

commercial bank /ˌ··ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* a bank which accepts DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS, which the customer can close without giving warning, and which makes INVESTMENTS for a short time only

commercial break /ˌ··ˌ·· ˈ·/ also **break** *infml*— *n* a pause for advertisements during a television or radio programme

Commercial Court /ˌ··ˈ·· ˌ·/ [*the*] a British court which hears cases concerning the movement of goods, insurance, banking, etc.

com·mer·cial·is·m /kəˈmɜːʃəlɪzəm‖-ɜːr-/ *n* [U] *often derog* the principles, methods, and practices of commerce, esp. those concerned only with making profits

com·mer·cial·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /kəˈmɜːʃəlaɪz‖-ɜːr-/ *v* [T] *often derog* to make (something) too commercial, esp. to treat with regard to, rather than of religion, art, etc.: *Do you agree that Christmas is too commercialized these days?* —**-ization** /kəˌmɜːʃəlaɪˈzeɪʃən‖kəˌmɜːrʃələ-/ *n* [U]

commercial pa·per /ˌ··ˈ··/ *n* [U] *AmE tech* documents that record debts which must be paid after a short time. They are bought and sold, usu. between companies, at a DISCOUNT of their full value, as a way of getting money immediately: *They raised $50,000 yesterday selling commercial paper.*

commercial ra·di·o /ˌ··ˈ···/ *n* [U] (in Britain) local radio stations whose money comes from advertising and which are controlled by the IBA (= Independent Broadcasting Authority) —see also COMMERCIAL TELEVISION, IBA

commercial sub·jects /ˌ··ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n old-fash for* BUSINESS STUDIES

commercial tel·e·vi·sion /ˌ··ˈ····, ˌ··ˈ··/ *n* [U] (in Britain) independent television companies whose money comes from advertising not from the government and which in Britain are controlled by the IBA —see also COMMERCIAL RADIO, IBA

commercial trav·el·ler /ˌ··ˈ···/ *n BrE old-fash for* SALES REPRESENTATIVE

com·mie , Commie /ˈkɒmi‖ˈkɑː-/ *n derog sl, esp. AmE for* COMMUNIST

com·mis·e·rate /kəˈmɪzəreɪt/ *v*

commiserate with sbdy. *phr v* [T (**on, over**)] to feel or express sympathy for (a person), esp. over something not very serious: *I commiserated with my friend after he failed his driving test.*

com·mis·e·ra·tion /kəˌmɪzəˈreɪʃən/ *n* [C;U (**on**)] *usu. pl.* (an expression of) sympathy for the (esp. not very serious) misfortune of another person: *Please give her my commiserations on failing her exam.* —compare CONDOLENCE

com·mis·sar /ˌkɒmɨˈsɑːʳ‖ˌkɑː-/ *n* (in the Soviet Union) **1** the official title of a government minister until 1946 **2** an official responsible for political education, esp. in the armed forces

com·mis·sar·i·at /ˌkɒmɨˈseəriət‖ˌkɑː-/ *n tech* [C+*sing./pl. v*;U] (a department dealing with) the supply of provisions to an army

com·mis·sa·ry /ˈkɒmɨsəri‖ˈkɑːmɨseri/ *n* **1** an officer with duties in the commissariat **2** *esp. AmE* a place where soldiers or people employed by a firm, esp. a film company, can buy and eat food

com·mis·sion[1] /kəˈmɪʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U (**on**)] (an amount of) money, usu. related to the value of goods sold, paid to the person who sold them: *He gets a 10% commission on everything he sells.* | *There is a salary of £10,000, plus the opportunity to earn commission.* | *You have to pay a 25p commission on each cheque you cash.* **2** [C] a special job, duty, or power, given to a person or group of people: *Does that artist take|accept commissions?* [+*to-v*] *The commission to build the new theatre was given to a well-known architect.* **3** [C+*sing./pl. v*] (*often cap.*) a group of people specially appointed at a high level to do certain work, esp. to find out facts and write a report: *The government has set up a commission to suggest improvements in the educational system.* | *The commission has|have recommended the abolition of the examination.* | *a* **Royal Commission** *on gambling* **4** [C] (an official paper appointing someone to) any of several high ranks in the armed forces: *He's got his commission and is now a lieutenant.* **5** [U (**of**)] *fml or law* the act of committing (COMMIT) a crime: *the commission of murder by a person or persons unknown* **6 in|out of commission** (of a ship, machine, etc.) ready/not ready for active use —see also HIGH COMMISSION

commission[2] *v* [T] **1** to give a COMMISSION[1] (2,4) to: [+*obj*+*to-v*] *He has been commissioned to paint a picture of the queen.* **2** to place a special order for, or appoint someone to do (something): *The king commissioned a portrait of the queen.* | *This inquiry was commissioned by the previous government.*

Commission for Ra·cial E·qual·i·ty /ˌ··ˌ·· · ˌ·· ·ˈ···/ [*the*] a British government organization established in 1976 to make sure that people of all races are treated fairly and equally by employers, schools, etc.

com·mis·sion·aire /kəˌmɪʃəˈneəʳ/ *n esp. BrE* a uniformed attendant at the entrance to a cinema, theatre, hotel, etc.

commissioned of·fic·er /ˌ··ˈ··/ *adj* a middle-ranking or high-ranking officer in the armed forces —compare NCO

com·mis·sion·er /kəˈmɪʃənəʳ/ *n* (*often cap.*) **1** an official in charge of a particular government department in some countries: *Commissioner Addo is responsible for education.* **2** a member of a COMMISSION[1] (3): *The* **Commissioners of Inland Revenue** *control British national taxes.* **3** the head of the police department in some places in the US: *Report directly to the Commissioner.* —see also CHURCH COMMISSIONERS, HIGH COMMISSIONER

commissioner for oaths /ˌ··· · ˈ·/ *n esp. BrE* a lawyer who has the legal power to witness an OATH made by someone who is making a formal legal statement

com·mit /kəˈmɪt/ *v* **-tt-** [T] **1** to do (something wrong or illegal): *to commit a crime|a sin|suicide|murder* **2** [(**to**)] to promise (esp. oneself, one's property, etc.) to a certain cause, position, opinion, or course of action: *The government has committed itself to improving health education|has committed considerable resources to improving the rail system.* | *The director has been asked to state the company's position, but so far he has refused|declined to commit himself (on this issue).* —see also COMMITTED **3** [(**to**)] to order (someone) to be put somewhere, esp. in prison or in a MENTAL HOSPITAL: *He was found guilty and committed (to prison).* **4** [(**to**)] *fml* to put into a particular place or state, e.g. in order to be kept for future use or to be got rid of: *The body was committed to the flames.* (=was burnt) | *to commit something to memory* (=to memorize it) | *She committed the facts to writing|to paper.* (=wrote them down)

com·mit·ment /kəˈmɪtmənt/ *n* [C;U (**to**)] **1** a responsibility or promise to follow certain beliefs or a certain course of action: *As members of the alliance, we must honour our defence commitments.* | *Come and look round our shop without commitment to buy anything.* | *I'm afraid I can't come, owing to other|prior commitments.* | *I don't want to get married because I don't want any commitments.* | *The general has repeated|stressed his commitment to holding elections as soon as possible.* **2** the state of being committed; deeply-felt loyalty to a particular aim, belief, etc.: *The company's success this year would not have been possible without the commitment and dedication of the staff.*|

a deep commitment to feminist principles

com·mit·tal /kəˈmɪtl/ *n* [C;U (**to**)] (an example of) the act of sending a person to prison or to a MENTAL HOSPITAL

com·mit·ted /kəˈmɪtɨd/ *adj* [(**to**)] **1** giving one's whole loyalty to a particular aim, job, or way of life: *a committed nurse|Christian|teacher | She's very committed to her job|to helping people who are homeless.* **2** [F] having made a firm promise or statement of intention: *The government is firmly committed to (maintaining) its nuclear energy programme, and is very unlikely to change its policy.*

com·mit·tee /kəˈmɪti/ *n* [C+*sing.*/*pl. v*] a group of people chosen, esp. by and from a larger group, to do a particular job or for special duties: *He's on the committee that controls council spending|on the finance committee. | to hold|attend a committee meeting | They've set up a committee to examine the question of park facilities.* —see also SELECT COMMITTEE

com·mit·tee·man /kəˈmɪtimæn/ **-wom·an** /ˌwʊmən/ *fem.*— *n* **-men** /men/ a member of a committee

committee stage /ˌ··ˈ·/ *n law* (in either house of the British Parliament) the stage between the second and third consideration (READING) of a suggested law (BILL), when it is closely examined by a small committee

com·mode /kəˈməʊd/ *n* **1** a piece of bedroom furniture like a chair with a CHAMBER POT under it **2** *old use* a piece of furniture containing drawers or shelves

com·mo·di·ous /kəˈməʊdiəs/ *adj lit or fml* having plenty of space: *a commodious house* —~**ly** *adv*

com·mod·i·ty /kəˈmɒdɨti‖kəˈmɑː-/ *n* **1** an article of trade or COMMERCE, esp. a mineral or farm product: *The country is heavily dependent on its exports of agricultural commodities. | There have been big rises in commodity prices, especially copper and tin. | commodity brokers* **2** *fml* a thing of use or value: *Tact is a valuable commodity.*

commodity mar·ket /ˌ··ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a place where raw materials such as coffee, sugar, wool, wheat, etc., are bought and sold in large quantities. The main commodity market in Britain is the **London Commodity Exchange** and in the US it is the **Chicago Board of Trade.**

com·mo·dore /ˈkɒmədɔːr‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* **1** a naval rank —see TABLE 3 **2** the captain in charge of a FLEET (=a group) of MERCHANT ships (=ships carrying goods, materials, etc.) **3** the president of a club for people who go sailing

com·mon[1] /ˈkɒmən‖ˈkɑː-/ *adj* **1** found or happening often and in many places; usual: *Rabbits and foxes are common in Britain. | a common occurrence | a common failing among teachers | one of the commonest|most common causes of heart disease | It is now very common for women to hold managerial jobs.* —compare RARE[1] (1), SCARCE[1] (1) **2** [A *no comp.*] of no special quality or rank; of the ordinary type: *Common salt is very cheap. | How will these changes affect* **the common man?** (=ordinary people) | *He didn't even have the* **common courtesy** *to reply to her letter.* —see also COMMON COLD **3** [A;F+**to**; *no comp.*] **a** belonging to or shared equally by two or more; united; JOINT: *united by their common desire to win their country's independence | to* **make common cause** (=join together) *against an enemy | This useful feature is common to both these computers.* (=they both have it) | *When it comes to politics my mother and I are on* **common ground.** (=we have the same opinions) **b** of or belonging to society as a whole; general: *The government says it is acting for the* **common good.** | *It's* **common knowledge** *among politicians that an election will be called soon. | This forest is* **common land.** | *Their latest system is* **by common consent** (=as everyone agrees) *the best personal computer on the market.* **4** *esp. BrE derog* rough in manner or appearance and (regarded as being) of low social class; VULGAR: *He's so common. | a common-looking woman | She's* **as common as muck** (=extremely common). **5** [A *no comp.*] *tech* having the same relationship to two or more quantities: *5 is a common factor of 10 and 20.* —see also BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, COMMONLY —~**ness** *n* [U]

common[2] *n* **1** an area of grassland with no fences which people in general are free to use: *Every Saturday Jean went riding on the village common.* **2 in common** shared with someone else: *John and I have nothing in common.* (=no shared interests, qualities, etc.) | *In common with most young people he hates getting up in the morning.* **3 out of the common** *fml* unusual —see also COMMONS

Common Ag·ri·cul·tu·ral Pol·i·cy /ˌ·· ··ˈ··· ˌ···/ also **CAP**— [*the*] the system of support for farmers used by the EC

common car·ri·er /ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n AmE* **1** a CARRIER (1) **2** a company that provides telephone or other TELECOMMUNICATIONS lines in exchange for payment

com·mon·al·ty /ˈkɒmənəlti‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* [*the*+S+*sing.*/*pl. v*] *fml* the common people; ordinary citizens

common cold /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [*the*] *tech for* COLD[2] (2)

Common Cold U·nit /ˌ·· ˈ· ˌ··/ [*the*] (in Britain) a place where a group of scientists worked until 1991 to try to find a cure for COLDS[2] (2)

common de·nom·i·na·tor /ˌ·· ·ˈ····/ *n* **1** *tech* a number which can be divided exactly by the lower number in a set of FRACTIONS **2** a quality or belief shared by all the members of a group: *There is one common denominator in these very different schemes — namely, that they are all aimed at reducing pollution.*

Common En·trance Ex·am·i·na·tion /ˌ·· ˈ·· ···ˌ··/ [*the*] an examination taken in PREPARATORY SCHOOLS by children, usu. boys between the ages of 12 and 14, in order to be able to go to a British PUBLIC SCHOOL

com·mon·er /ˈkɒmənəʳ‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* a person who is not a member of a noble family: *The princess married a commoner.*

common frac·tion /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n esp. AmE for* VULGAR FRACTION

common ground /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] a familiar subject of interest, argument, etc. which both or all people agree on: *Both parties refused to enter common ground and the meeting ended in disaster.*

com·mon·hold /ˈkɒmənhəʊld‖ˈkɑː-/ *adj, adv, n tech* (having) a shared FREEHOLD between the owners of different properties within the same building. Commonhold is being introduced in England and Wales to give more rights to people who own FLATS in a building owned by someone else. —compare FREEHOLD

common land /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] (in Britain) land which is owned by no one and cannot be fenced, and is available for everyone to use

common-law /ˈ·· ·/ *adj* [A] according or related to common law: *common-law penalties*

common law /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [(*the*) U] **1** the body of law originating in England and the modern systems of law based upon it —compare CANON LAW, CIVIL LAW, CRIMINAL LAW **2** the unwritten law, esp. of England, based on custom and court decisions rather than on laws made by Parliament —compare STATUTE LAW

common-law hus·band /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ *n* a man who lives with a woman as if he was her husband

common-law mar·riage /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ *n* a union between a man and a woman who live together and agree to call themselves husband and wife without the performance of a marriage ceremony

common-law wife /ˌ·· · ˈ·/ *n* a woman who lives with a man as if she was his wife

com·mon·ly /ˈkɒmənli‖ˈkɑː-/ *adv* **1** usually or generally: *It was commonly believed|thought that he was a spy. | a commonly used fertilizer* —compare UNCOMMONLY **2** *derog* in a COMMON[1] (4) manner

Common Mar·ket /ˌ·· ˈ··/ [*the*] *old-fash* the EC

common noun /ˌ·· ˈ··◂/ *n* (in grammar) a noun that is not the name of a single particular person, place, or thing: *"Book" and "sugar" are common nouns.* —compare PROPER NOUN

common-or-gar·den /ˌ·· · ˈ··◂/ *adj* [A] *infml, esp. BrE* ordinary: *a common-or-garden sewing machine which doesn't do any fancy stitching*

com·mon·place[1] /ˈkɒmənpleɪs‖ˈkɑː-/ *adj* ordinary; not regarded as special or unusual: *Heart transplant operations are becoming fairly commonplace.*

commonplace[2] *n* a well-known remark with little meaning or interest: *We exchanged a few commonplaces about our work and the weather.* —compare PLATITUDE

common room /ˈ·· ·/ *n esp. BrE* a room in a school or college for the use of teachers and/or students when they are not teaching or studying

com·mons /ˈkɒmənz‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* **1** [*the*+P] *old use* the ordinary people as opposed to their rulers or people of noble birth **2** [U] *BrE lit or pomp* meals provided for a large group of people, e.g. at a college: *They kept us* **on short commons.** (=didn't give us enough to eat)

Commons *n* [*the*+S+*sing./pl. v*] the HOUSE OF COMMONS

common sense /ˌ·· ˈ·◂/ *n* [U] practical good sense and judgment gained from experience, rather than special knowledge from school or study: *Although she's not very academic she's got plenty of common sense.* —see also SENSIBLE —**commonsense** *adj* [A]: *a commonsense approach to the problem*

com·mon·weal /ˈkɒmənwiːl‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* [*the*+S] *lit or pomp* the general good of all the people living in a country

com·mon·wealth /ˈkɒmənwelθ‖ˈkɑː-/ *n tech, fml, or lit* a country or state

Commonwealth *n* **1** [*the*] also **British Commonwealth** *esp. old use*, **Commonwealth of Na·tions** /ˌ··· · ˈ··/ *fml*— an organization of about 50 independent states which were formerly parts of the British Empire, established to encourage trade and friendly relations among its members. The Queen is the head of the Commonwealth: *representatives of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Kenya, Jamaica, and other Commonwealth countries* **2** [C] the official title of **a** some states of the United States, such as Virginia and Kentucky **b** some countries or states which are made up of an official association with other states, such as Australia, Puerto Rico, etc.: *The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico* **3** [*the*] (the period of rule over) England from 1649 to 1660, esp. under Cromwell: *Theatres were closed during the Commonwealth.*

Commonwealth Day /ˈ··· ˌ·/ see EMPIRE DAY

Commonwealth Games /ˌ··· ˈ·/ [*the*] a sports event in which the member countries of the Commonwealth compete in various sports, held every four years in one of the competing countries

Commonwealth of In·de·pen·dent States /ˌ··· · ˌ···· ˈ·/ see CIS

com·mo·tion /kəˈməʊʃən/ *n* [C;U] (an example of) noisy and excited movement or activity: *"What's all the commotion about?" asked the angry teacher.* | *The announcement of the new higher taxes caused quite a commotion in Parliament.*

com·mu·nal /ˈkɒmjʊnəl, kəˈmjuːnl‖ˈkɑː-/ *adj* **1** shared or used by all the members of a group: *communal ownership of property* | *We organized the cleaning on a communal basis.* | *a communal television room in a hotel* **2** *tech* of, related to, or based on racial, religious, or language groups: *communal riots in India*

com·mune[1] /ˈkɒmjuːn‖ˈkɑː-, kəˈmjuːn/ *n* **1** [+*sing./pl. v*] **a** a group of people who work as a team, esp. in farming, and usu. give what they produce to the state **b** a group of people who live together, though not belonging to the same family, and who share their lives and possessions. In Britain and the US in the 1960s many HIPPIES lived in communes: *He ran away from home and joined a commune.* **2** the smallest division of local government in some countries, such as France and Belgium

com·mune[2] /kəˈmjuːn/ *v* [I (**with**)] *lit* to exchange thoughts or feelings: *I often walk by the sea to commune with nature.*

com·mu·ni·ca·ble /kəˈmjuːnɪkəbəl/ *adj fml* (esp. of thoughts, ideas, illnesses, etc.) that can be (easily) passed from one person to another —**-bly** *adv*

com·mu·ni·cant /kəˈmjuːnɪkənt/ *n* (in the Christian church) a person who receives COMMUNION

com·mu·ni·cate /kəˈmjuːnɪkeɪt/ *v* **1** [T (**to**)] to make (opinions, feelings, information, etc.) known or understood by others, e.g. by speech, writing, or bodily movements: *Our teacher communicates his ideas very clearly.* | *The Prime Minister has communicated his displeasure to the American ambassador.* **2** [I (**with**)] to share or exchange opinions, feelings, information, etc.: *He's a shy boy who can't communicate very well.* | *Deaf people use sign language to communicate.* | *Bats communicate (with each other) by making high-pitched noises.* **3** [T (**to**)] *tech* to pass on (a disease, heat, etc.): *Some diseases are easily communicated.* **4** [I (**with**)] *fml* (esp. of rooms) to join; be connected: *communicating bedrooms* **5** [I] (in the Christian church) to receive COMMUNION

com·mu·ni·ca·tion /kəˌmjuːnɪˈkeɪʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the act or process of communicating: *Communication with Europe was difficult during the postal strike.* | *Radio is an important means of communication.* | *We are in radio communication with the spacecraft.* | *communication links/technology* **2** [C] *fml* something communicated; a message, letter, etc.: *He received a communication from the solicitors telling him that his uncle had died.* —see also COMMUNICATIONS

communication cord /·ˌ··ˈ·· ·/ *n BrE* a chain which a passenger can pull to stop a train in an EMERGENCY (=a sudden dangerous situation). There is a punishment of a FINE[3] for pulling it at any other time.

com·mu·ni·ca·tions /kəˌmjuːnɪˈkeɪʃənz/ *n* [P (**with**)] the various ways of travelling, moving goods and people, and sending information, between places; connections by means of roads, railways, radio, telephones, etc.: *Moscow has excellent communications with all parts of the Soviet Union.* | *communications networks/systems* | *The new satellite has improved communications between Europe and the US.*

communication skills /···ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* [P] the ability to present your ideas clearly in speech and writing. Good communication skills are considered by employers to be a valuable personal characteristic and are often requested in job advertisements: *The Chairman wants all our managers to take a course in communication skills this year.*

communications sat·el·lite /···ˈ·· ˌ···/ also **communication satellite** *n* a man-made object in space which goes around the Earth sending radio, television, and telephone signals around the world

com·mu·ni·ca·tive /kəˈmjuːnɪkətɪv‖-keɪtɪv/ *adj* **1** very willing to talk or give information: *You're not very communicative this morning; is anything the matter?* —opposite **uncommunicative** **2** related to communication: *communicative ability*

com·mu·nion /kəˈmjuːnjən/ *n* **1** [U (**between, with**)] *fml or lit* the sharing or exchange of deep thoughts, ideas, and feelings, esp. of a religious kind: *communion with nature* | *a mystical communion between man and God* | *Through the long hours of the night he held communion with* (=talked seriously and deeply with) *the condemned man.* **2** [C+*sing./pl. v*] a group of people or religious organizations having the same religious beliefs; DENOMINATION: *He belongs to the Anglican communion.*

Communion also **Holy Communion**— *n* [U] the Christian ceremony in which bread and wine are shared as a sign of Christ's body and blood in order to remember him. The Communion ceremony repeats the actions of Christ at the Last Supper: *The communicants came up to take/receive Communion from the priest.* (=by eating the bread and drinking the wine) —compare MASS, EUCHARIST; see also CONSUBSTANTIATION

com·mu·ni·qué /kəˈmjuːnɪkeɪ‖kəˌmjuːnɪˈkeɪ/ *n* an official report or declaration, usu. to the public or newspapers: *The palace has issued a communiqué denying the paper's allegations.*

com·mu·nism /ˈkɒmjʊnɪzəm‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* [U] (the belief in) a social and political system in which the means of production are owned and controlled by the state or the people as a whole, and the goods and wealth produced are shared according to the principle "from each according to his ability, to each according to his needs" —compare CAPITALISM, SOCIALISM

Communism *n* [U] the system of government in which a single party controls the means of production, with the aim of establishing a classless society according to the principles of communism: *Chinese Communism* — compare CAPITALISM; see also MARXISM, MARXISM-LENINISM

▶CULTURAL NOTE Most British and American people associate Communism esp. with the Soviet Union and many people in both countries fear Communism. This was esp. true in the US during the 1950s and 1960s, when the Cold War was at its height. —see also McCARTHYISM◀

com·mu·nist /ˈkɒmjʊnɪst‖ˈkɑː-/ *adj, n* (of) a person favouring the principles of communism — **~ic** /ˌkɒmjʊˈnɪstɪk◂‖ˌkɑː-/ *adj*

Communist *n* a person believing that Communism is the best possible form of society: *She's a Communist.* | *Chinese Communists*

►CULTURAL NOTE In the US, especially in the 1950s and 1960s, many people disapproved of Communists and considered American Communists to be disloyal to their country. **Commie, Red,** and **Pinko** became derogatory terms for Communists. The word Communist is still sometimes used to mean anyone whose political ideas are LEFT WING. —see also HUAC, Joseph McCARTHY, McCARTHYISM **Communist** *adj* : *Communist ideas | the Communist Revolution*◄

Communist bloc /ˈ··· ˌ· [*the*] the group of Communist countries, esp. in Eastern Europe, which supported and formed ALLIANCES with the USSR

Communist Man·i·fes·to /ˌ··· ·· ˈ··/, **The** a book by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels which set out all the basic principles of Communism. It was first published (PUBLISH) in 1848.

Communist Par·ty /ˈ··· ˌ··/, **the** [+ sing./pl. v] a political party, also known as **the Communists**, which follows the principles of MARXISM-LENINISM.

com·mu·ni·ty /kəˈmjuːnɨti/ *n* **1** [C+*sing./pl. v*] a group of people living together and/or united by shared interests, religion, nationality, etc.: *the Polish community in Britain | The President met leaders of the black community during his visit to Chicago. | rural communities | the academic community | This terrorist attack has been condemned by the entire* **international community.** (=by all the countries of the world) **2** [*the*+S] the public; people in general: *The job of a politician is to serve the (whole) community. | community singing* (=singing in which all present may take part) —see SOCIETY (USAGE) **3** [U (**of**)] shared possession: *community of property|companies | The two men were united by* **community of interests.** (=by having the same aims and needs) **4** [C] *tech* a group of plants or animals living together in the same surroundings, dependent on each other for the means of existence

Community [*the*] *infml for* the EC

community care /·ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* [U] help from the SOCIAL SERVICES for people who would once have had to live in institutions, e.g. mentally ill people, so that they can live in their own homes in the local community. This is a recent British government idea, and there is some concern that not all these people will be able to manage without the special care of the people who worked at the institution.

community cen·tre /·ˈ··· ˌ··/ *n* a building where people from a certain area or group can meet for social, educational, or other purposes

community chan·nel /·ˈ··· ˌ··/ also **public access channel** *n* a television CHANNEL provided by most CABLE television companies (in the US) which enables people served by the company to broadcast their own programmes or other information

community charge /·ˈ··· ˌ·/ [*the*] (in Britain) the official name of a local tax introduced by the Conservative Party. It began to be collected in Scotland in 1989 and in England and Wales in 1990. It was based on each adult person paying the same amount, and replaced the RATES (=a local tax based on property). It was usu. known as the POLL TAX. It was generally unpopular, e.g. because a poor family in one house might have to pay a lot more than quite a rich single person living next door. After a lot of trouble, and some RIOTS, the Conservative government announced in 1990 that the community charge would be replaced in 1993 by the COUNCIL TAX.

community chest /·ˈ··· ˌ·/ *n* **1** *esp. AmE* an amount of money collected by the people and businesses of an area to help people in need **2** a square on which one can land in the board game Monopoly

community col·lege /·ˈ··· ˌ··/ also **junior college** *n* [C;U] (in the US) a COLLEGE (3) which is generally attended by students who live at home rather than at the college, and which is usu. cheaper than other colleges because it usu. is partly paid for by the local government. Working people often attend community colleges to improve their QUALIFICATIONS. Also, students who are not accepted to the college of their choice because of poor examination results often attend their community college; after achieving better examination results there, they may **transfer** to a better college where they can finish a BACHELOR's degree.

community coun·cil /·ˌ··· ˈ··/ *n* **1** a form of local government in Wales **2** a local advisory body in Scotland with no political authority

community home /·ˈ··· ˌ·/ *n* (in Britain) a special school for young people who have broken the law. They live and receive training there. It replaces the old APPROVED SCHOOL and REMAND HOME —see also REFORMATORY

community po·li·cing /·ˌ··· ·ˈ··/ *n* [U] a system for preventing crime and encouraging good relations between the police and the public, by having the same policemen working in a particular area so that the people in that area know and trust them

community prop·er·ty /·ˈ··· ˌ···/ *n* [U] *law* (in the US) property such as houses or land, etc., bought by either a husband or wife but considered to be owned by both

community ser·vice /·ˌ··· ˈ··/ *n* [U] **1** VOLUNTARY WORK done to help other people within the local COMMUNITY: *Her care of the retired people in the home is an outstanding example of community service.* **2** a punishment given by a court for certain less important crimes, according to which an offender must do socially useful work, e.g. repairing old people's homes or helping HANDICAPPED children, instead of going to prison: *a sentence of 100 hours of community service*

com·mu·ta·ble /kəˈmjuːtəbəl/ *adj* that can be commuted (COMMUTE¹ (2,3))

com·mu·ta·tion /ˌkɒmjʊˈteɪʃən‖ˌkɑː-/ *n* **1** [C;U (**from, to**)] (a) reduction in a punishment: *The court ordered the commutation of his sentence from death to life imprisonment.* **2** [U (**into, for**)] *fml* the act of exchanging one thing for another **3** [C] *tech* a payment of one sort made instead of an equal payment of another sort

commutation tick·et /ˌ··ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n AmE* a ticket sold at a reduced price by a railway or bus company for a fixed number of trips between two places during a fixed period of time —compare SEASON TICKET

com·mu·ta·tive /kəˈmjuːtətɪv‖ˈkɑːmjəteɪtɪv/ *adj tech* not depending on the order in which an operation is carried out: *Addition is commutative, but subtraction is not.*

com·mu·ta·tor /ˈkɒmjʊteɪtəʳ‖ˈkɑː-/ *n tech* an apparatus used in electric motors, machines, etc., for changing the direction of flow of an electric current

com·mute¹ /kəˈmjuːt/ *v* **1** [I (**between, from, to**)] to travel regularly a long distance between one's home and work, esp. by train or car. Many people in Britain now commute to work, esp. into London. In the US, people have to commute in most of the large cities. People who commute are usu. WHITE-COLLAR workers: *She commutes from Cambridge to London|between Cambridge and London every day. | a suburb within easy commuting distance of the city* —see also COMMUTER **2** [T (**from, to**)] to make (a punishment) less severe: *His sentence was commuted from death to life imprisonment.* **3** [T (**into, for**)] to exchange (one thing, esp. one kind of payment) for another: *He commuted his pension into|for a lump sum.* —see also COMMUTABLE, COMMUTATION

commute² *n infml* the trip made in commuting: *It's a long commute from New York to Boston.*

commuters



com·mut·er /kəˈmjuːtəʳ/ *n* a person who commutes to work every day: *a crowded commuter train*

►CULTURAL NOTE In Britain, the image of the typical commuter is of someone in SMART clothes who works in an

office, is RESPECTABLE and CONSERVATIVE, and who sits and reads a newspaper on the train and does not talk to anyone else. In the US people often think of commuters in connection with TRAFFIC JAMs because most people commute in their cars.◀

commuter belt /·ˈ·· ·/ *n* an area around a large town from which many people commute to work every day. (In Britain, this is mostly used of the area around London.)

Co·mo /ˈkəʊməʊ/, **Perry** (1912–) an American popular music singer of usu. ROMANTIC songs, popular esp. with older people

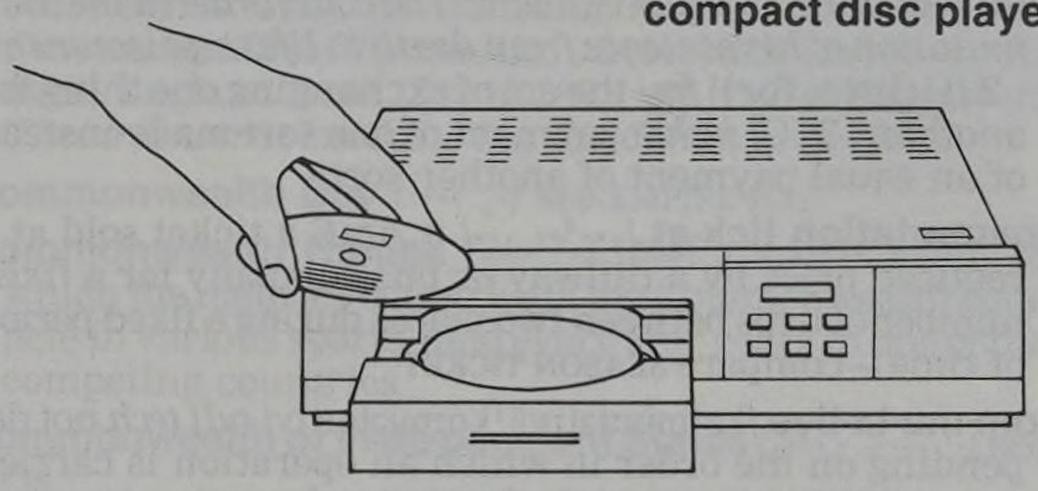
com·pact[1] /kəmˈpækt, ˈkɒmpækt‖kəmˈpækt/ *adj* **1** firmly and closely packed together; DENSE: *The trees grew in a compact mass.* **2** small but cleverly made or arranged; fitting neatly into a small space: *a compact office|camera* **3** expressed in few words; CONCISE: *a compact statement* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

com·pact[2] /ˈkɒmpækt‖ˈkɑːm-/ *n* **1** a small flat container for a woman's FACE POWDER, a POWDER PUFF, and a mirror **2** also **compact car** /ˌ·· ˈ·/— *AmE* a small car

compact[3] *n fml* an agreement between two or more people, countries, etc.: *banking compacts* [+*to-v*] *They made a compact never to speak about the matter again.*

com·pact[4] /kəmˈpækt/ *v* [T] to press together firmly and closely: *a compacted mass of snow*

compact disc player



compact disc , compact disk /ˌ·· ˈ· ˌ· / also **CD**— *n* a small circular piece of hard plastic on which high-quality recorded sound or large quantities of information can be stored. In Britain and the US, it has largely replaced the RECORD[2] (4).

compact disc player, compact disk player /ˌ·· ˈ· ˌ··/ also **CD player** – *n* a piece of equipment which can turn the information stored on a COMPACT DISC back into the original sounds, music, etc.: *a portable compact disc player*

com·pan·ion /kəmˈpænjən/ *n* **1** *esp. lit* a person who goes somewhere with or spends time with another, either because of friendship or by chance: *a close companion | a travelling companion | My fellow prisoners made|were good companions* | (fig.) *The fear of being discovered was his* **constant companion.** (=He was continuously afraid of being discovered.) —compare COMRADE, PARTNER **2** (esp. formerly) a person, usu. a woman, paid to live with another (often older or ill) person: *The old lady's companion always drives the car.* —compare PARTNER **3** [**(to)**] either of a pair or set of things; one thing that matches another: *I used to have a companion to that vase, but I broke it. | a companion volume* **4** (usu. in titles) a book which explains how to do something; HANDBOOK: *the Motorist's Companion*

com·pan·io·na·ble /kəmˈpænjənəbəl/ *adj* friendly; showing a friendly relationship: *a companionable evening together playing cards | a companionable silence* (=comfortable even though no one spoke) —**-bly** *adv*

Companion of Hon·our /·ˌ·· · ·ˈ··/ also **CH** [*the*] a British AWARD given by the king or queen to someone who has performed a special service of national importance: *What did she do to get the Companion of Honour?* —compare ORDER OF MERIT

com·pan·ion·ship /kəmˈpænjənʃɪp/ *n* [U] the relationship of companions; friendly company: *He missed the companionship he'd enjoyed in the navy.*

com·pan·ion·way /kəmˈpænjənweɪ/ *n* the steps leading from the one DECK (=floor) of a ship to another —compare GANGPLANK

com·pa·ny /ˈkʌmpəni/ *n* **1** [C+*sing./pl. v*] an organization made up of people who work together for purposes of business or trade: *a pharmaceutical company | insurance companies | to form a new company | a private|public|state-owned company | Which company do you work for? | My company sells farm machinery.* | (in names) *Robinson and Company* —see also HOLDING COMPANY, PUBLIC COMPANY **2** [C+*sing./pl. v*] a group of entertainers who work together: *a theatre|dance company | The Royal Shakespeare Company* **3** [U] the presence of another person; companionship: *Would you like some company? | I was grateful for Jean's company on the long journey up to Edinburgh.* **4** [U+*sing./pl. v*] companions; the people with whom a person spends time: *pleasant company | The people at this party are really boring —* **present company excepted,** *of course!* (=I don't include you) **5** [U] one or more guests: *No, you can't go out tonight; we're expecting company. | You should never swear* **in company.** (=when guests are present) **6** [C+*sing./pl. v*] **a** a group of about 120 soldiers, usu. part of a REGIMENT or BATTALION **b** officers and men of a ship **7 be good/bad company** to be a good/bad person to be with: *John's rather depressed; he's not very good company at the moment.* **8 be in good company** *humor* to be in the same (usu. difficult) situation as another person: *"Why are we going to France? I can't speak a word of French." "Don't worry, you're in good company – neither can I!"* **9 keep someone company** to be, go, remain, etc. with someone; provide companionship: *If you're going out for a walk, I'll come along and keep you company.* **10 two's company, three's a crowd** *saying* two people can spend time happily together, but if there are more than two this may be a problem. The phrase is used esp. about two people who are sexually attracted to each other not wanting a third person to spoil the amount of attention they can give to each other. —see also **part company** (PART[2])

company car /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* a car which is provided for a person by their employer, either because they have to travel in order to do their job or because they have an important job and the car is a kind of reward. It is available for their private use. In Britain a company car is seen as a STATUS SYMBOL by many people: *a salary of £25,000 plus a company car*

company law /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* [U] the area of law that concerns how businesses operate and what their responsibilities to each other, to customers, and to governments are

company sec·re·ta·ry /ˌ··· ˈ····/ *n esp. BrE* a high-ranking member of a business company who deals with accounts, legal matters, etc.

com·pa·ra·ble /ˈkɒmpərəbəl‖ˈkɑːm-/ *adj* [**(with, to)**] **1** similar; that can be compared; EQUIVALENT: *A comparable car would cost far more abroad. | a system for ensuring that people doing comparable jobs receive comparable rates of pay* **2** deserving to be compared: *His poetry isn't bad, but it's hardly comparable with Shakespeare's!* —see also INCOMPARABLE —**-bly** *adv* —**-bility** /ˌkɒmpərəˈbɪlɪ̈ti‖ˌkɑːm-/ *n* [U] : *a system of public pay comparability*

com·par·a·tive[1] /kəmˈpærətɪv/ *adj* [*no comp.*] **1** (of the form of an adjective or adverb) expressing an increase in quality, quantity, or degree: *"Bigger" is the comparative form of "big". | "More comfortable" is the comparative form of "comfortable". | "Worse" is the comparative form of "bad", and also of "badly".* —compare POSITIVE[1] (5), SUPERLATIVE[1] (1) **2** measured or judged by a comparison which is not stated: *the comparative wealth of the south of England* (=its wealth compared with the rest of the country) | *He's a comparative newcomer to television.* (=He has been on television before, but not often.) | *a comparative stranger* **3** based on or making a comparison: *a comparative study of European languages | a collection of comparative statistical data about different countries*

comparative[2] also **comparative degree** /·ˌ··· ·ˈ·/— *n* [*the*+S] the form of an adjective or adverb that shows some increase in quality, quantity, or degree: *"Bigger" is the comparative of "big". | "More comfortable" is the comparative of "comfortable".*

com·par·a·tive·ly /kəmˈpærətɪ̈vli/ *adv* **1** when compared with others; rather: *Man is a comparatively new creature on the face of the earth. | Comparatively speaking, these aircraft are quite cheap.* **2** in a COMPARATIVE[1] (3) way: *two languages to study comparatively*

com·pare[1] /kəmˈpeəʳ/ *v* **1** [T **(to, with)**] to examine or judge (one thing) in relation to another thing in order to

show the points of similarity or difference: *The report compares the different types of home computer currently available.* | *I compared the copy with the original, and/but there wasn't much difference.* | *Compare our prices!* (=with those of other shops, which are higher) | *Our staff turnover is low compared with other companies.* | *Compared to a student grant the pay is quite good.* **2** [T] to show a similarity between (one thing and another): *It's impossible to compare London and New York/to compare the two cities; they're quite different.* **3** [I (**with**)] to be worthy of comparison: *1983 was an excellent year for wine – I'm afraid this year's doesn't compare.* (=is not nearly so good) | *Life/living in a town can't compare with life/living in the country.* (=life in the country is much better) | *She was pleased to discover that her work compared favourably with her older sister's.* **4 compare notes** *infml* to talk about each other's experiences and opinions of something: *We've been comparing notes on our trips to India.* **5 Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?** *quote* a phrase from a poem from Shakespeare, describing how beautiful a particular woman was

▷ USAGE **Compare** can be followed by **to** or **with**: *London is large,* **compared to/with** *Paris.* **Compare to** is often used when showing that two things are alike: *The poet* **compares** *the woman he loves* **to** *a rose.* (=says she is like a rose) **Compare with** is often used when looking at the ways in which two things are like and unlike each other: *If we* **compare** *French schools* **with** *British schools, we find there are many differences.*◁

compare[2] *n* **beyond/without compare** *esp. lit* to a very high degree: *beauty/beautiful beyond compare*

com·pa·ri·son /kəm'pærɨsən/ *n* **1** [U (**with**)] the act of comparing: **By comparison with** *London, Paris is small.* | *The driver's injuries were trivial* **in comparison with** *those suffered by his passenger.* | *My garden doesn't* **stand/bear comparison** *with his.* (=his garden is much nicer) **2** [C (**between, with**)] a statement of the points of similarity and difference between two things: *He* **drew** (=made) **a comparison** *between* (=compared) *religion and superstition.* **3** [U (**between**)] similarity: *There is* **no comparison** *between frozen and fresh fish.* (=fresh fish is better) **4** [U] *tech* (in grammar) the changing of the form of an adverb or adjective to show the three degrees of POSITIVE, COMPARATIVE, and SUPERLATIVE

com·part·ment /kəm'pɑːtmənt‖-ɑːr-/ *n* any of the parts into which an enclosed space, e.g. a railway carriage or box, is divided: *We sat in a second-class compartment.* | *the ice compartment in a fridge* —see also GLOVE COMPARTMENT, and see picture at CAR

com·part·men·tal·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /ˌkɒmpɑːt'mentl-aɪz‖kəmˌpɑːrt-/ *v* [T] to divide into separate compartments, divisions, etc.; CATEGORIZE: *compartmentalized information* —**-ization** /ˌkɒmpɑːtˌmentl-aɪ'zeɪʃən‖kəmˌpɑːrtmentl-ə'zeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

com·pass /'kʌmpəs/ *n* **1** an instrument for showing direction, consisting of a freely moving pointer which always turns to the MAGNETIC NORTH —see INSTRUMENT (USAGE) **2** also **compasses** ***pl.*** – a V-shaped instrument used for drawing circles, measuring distances on maps, etc.: *a pair of compasses* —see picture at MATHEMATICS **3** [*usu. sing.*] *fml* an area or range of interest, activity, etc.; SCOPE: *Finance is not within the compass of this department.* —see also **box the compass** (BOX[2])

com·pas·sion /kəm'pæʃən/ *n* [U (**for, on**)] sympathy for the sufferings of others, causing a desire to help them: *She felt/had/showed great compassion for the sick children.*

com·pas·sion·ate /kəm'pæʃənɨt/ *adj* [(**towards**)] feeling or showing compassion —**~ly** *adv*

compassionate leave /·ˌ··· '·/ *n* [U] special permission to leave work or military service for a short time for personal reasons, e.g. the death of a relative: *The soldier was given compassionate leave to attend his mother's funeral.*

compassion fa·tigue /·'·· ·ˌ·/ *n* [U] the state of being tired of being sympathetic esp. to the problems of less fortunate people or animals, caused by hearing and/or seeing too much about the problem: *I think I must have compassion fatigue. I just can't get interested in this programme.*

compass point /'·· ·/ *n* any of the 32 marks on a COMPASS, showing direction

com·pat·i·bil·i·ty /kəmˌpætɨ'bɪlɨti/ *n* [U (**with**)] the ability to exist together or to be used together

com·pat·i·ble[1] /kəm'pætɨbəl/ *adj* [(**with**)] **1** able to exist or live together: *Their marriage ended because they were simply not compatible.* | *compatible blood groups* | *This project is not compatible with the company's long-term plans.* —opposite **incompatible** **2** able to be used together or with (another thing): *Is your computer compatible with the Lotus spreadsheet program?* [after *n*] *Is this software Apple Macintosh compatible?* —**-bly** *adv*

compatible[2] *n* a piece of equipment, such as a computer or a computer PROGRAM, that can be used with the stated other type of equipment: *a computer workshop for those who have just acquired an IBM compatible* | *MS-DOS is the operating system used by IBM personal computers and their compatibles such as Amstrad 1512.*

com·pat·ri·ot /kəm'pætriət‖-'peɪt-/ *n fml* a person who was born in or is a citizen of the same country as another: *He tried to avoid spending too much time with his compatriots when he lived abroad.*

com·peer /'kɒmpɪəʳ‖'kɑːm-/ *n fml or old use* a person of equal rank, esp. a companion

com·pel /kəm'pel/ *v* **-ll-** [T] **1** [+*obj*+*to-v*] to make (a person or thing) do something, by force, moral persuasion, or orders that must be obeyed: *Employees are compelled to join the company's pension plan after a year's service.* | *His conscience compelled him to admit his part in the affair.* **2** *fml* to cause (a feeling, event, etc.) to exist or happen, as if by force: *Lack of funds for the campaign compelled his withdrawal.* | *a degree of political skill that compels our admiration* —compare IMPEL; see also COMPULSION

com·pel·ling /kəm'pelɪŋ/ *adj* **1** that holds one's attention, esp. by being exciting: *a compelling adventure story* **2** that compels one to do something: *I have no compelling reasons to refuse.* | *compelling arguments for accepting this proposal* —**~ly** *adv*

com·pen·di·ous /kəm'pendiəs/ *adj fml* (of books, etc.) giving information in a short but complete form —**~ly** *adv*

com·pen·di·um /kəm'pendiəm/ *n* **-diums** *or* **-dia** /diə/ [(**of**)] *fml* (a book containing) a short but detailed and complete account of facts, a subject, etc.: *a compendium of useful information*

com·pen·sate /'kɒmpənseɪt‖'kɑːm-/ *v* **1** [T (**for**)] to provide with a suitable payment for some loss, damage, inconvenience, etc.: *Many firms compensate their workers if they are injured at work.* **2** [I (**for**)] to act as a balance (for); remove the bad effect (of): *Her intelligence more than compensates for her lack of experience.* | *Nothing can compensate for losing my husband.* —**-satory** /ˌkɒmpən'seɪtəri‖kəm'pensəˌtɔːri/ *adj* : *compensatory payments*

com·pen·sa·tion /ˌkɒmpən'seɪʃən‖ˌkɑːm-/ *n* [S;U (**for**)] something (esp. money) given as a way of compensating: *The union is seeking compensation for two factory workers who were dismissed last week.* | *The travel agents offered them £200* **in compensation for** *their lost holiday.* | *a compensation claim* —compare CONSOLATION, RECOMPENSE

com·pere[1] /'kɒmpeəʳ‖'kɑːm-/ *n BrE* a person who introduces the various acts in a television stage show or other presentation

compere[2] *v* [I;T] *BrE* to act as the compere of (a television or stage show)

com·pete /kəm'piːt/ *v* [I (**with, against, for**)] to try to win something in competition with someone else: *to compete with/against a rival company* | *She and her sister are always competing for attention.* | *The government has to reconcile the competing demands for tax cuts and higher public spending.* [+*to-v*] *Several advertising agencies are competing to get the contract.* —see also COMPETITION, COMPETITOR

com·pe·tence /'kɒmpɨtəns‖'kɑːm-/ also **com·pe·ten·cy** /-tənsi/ *rare*— *n* **1** [U] ability to do what is needed; skill: *I'm only worried about his attitude to the job; his competence (as a designer) is not in question.* —opposite **incompetence** **2** [U] *tech* **a** the powers of a court of law: *The case is beyond this court's competence.* **b** the qualities necessary for a person to be admitted to a court of law (e.g. as a witness), such as having the right citizenship **3** [S] *lit or old use* enough money to live on comfortably

com·pe·tent /'kɒmpɨtənt‖'kɑːm-/ *adj* **1** having the ability

or skill to do something: *a competent swimmer* | *My secretary is perfectly competent, but she doesn't have much initiative.* [+ *to-v*] *His French seems quite good to me, but then I'm not really competent to judge.* —opposite **incompetent** **2** showing competence; satisfactory: *He did a competent job.* **3** [F] having the legal power to deal with something: [+*to-v*] *This court is not competent to hear your case.* — ~**ly** *adv*

com·pe·ti·tion /ˌkɒmpəˈtɪʃən‖ˌkɑːm-/ *n* **1** [C] a test of strength, skill, ability, etc.: *to go in for|enter a competition* | *a crossword competition* [+*to-v*] *a competition to find a designer for the new airport building* **2** [U (**with, between, for**)] the act of competing; the struggle between several people or groups to win something or gain an advantage; RIVALRY: *There was intense|keen|fierce competition between the journalists to get the story.* | *He was* **in competition with** *some world-class runners, so he did well to win the race.* | *The two products|companies are in direct competition.* (=are|produce similar products at similar prices) | *They believe that competition in business benefits the consumer.* **3** [U] the (other) competitors: *Anyone wanting to enter the computer business faces tough competition.* | *It's important in business to keep a careful watch on the competition.* | *They had to keep their prices low because of foreign competition.*

com·pet·i·tive /kəmˈpetətɪv/ *adj* **1** of, based on, or decided by competition: *the competitive nature of private industry* | *competitive sports* **2** liking to compete: *Jane's got a very competitive nature.* **3** (of a price, product, or producer) able to compete because it is at least as good, cheap, etc. as the competitors: *I always shop at that supermarket; its prices are very competitive.* | *Because of the high exchange rate, our products have lost their* **competitive edge.** (=their ability to compete successfully) — ~**ly** *adv* — ~**ness** *n* [U]

com·pet·i·tor /kəmˈpetətəʳ/ *n* a person, team, firm, product, etc., competing with another or others; RIVAL: *There were ten competitors in the race.* | *We lost the contract to our competitors.*

com·pi·la·tion /ˌkɒmpəˈleɪʃən‖ˌkɑːm-/ *n* **1** [U] the act or process of compiling **2** [C] a report, collection of writings, etc., that has been compiled

com·pile /kəmˈpaɪl/ *v* [T] to make (a report, a book, etc.) from facts and information found in various places: *It takes years of work to compile a dictionary.*

com·pil·er /kəmˈpaɪləʳ/ *n* **1** a person who compiles information for a report, a book, etc. **2** *tech* a PROGRAM which translates a computer language (such as BASIC) which is understood by the PROGRAMMER into a language (such as MACHINE CODE) which is understood by the computer

com·pla·cen·cy /kəmˈpleɪsənsi/ also **com·pla·cence** /-səns/— *n* [U] *usu. derog* a feeling of satisfaction with oneself or with a situation, esp. without good reason: *The state of the economy is increasingly desperate; I can see no justification for the government's complacency.*

com·pla·cent /kəmˈpleɪsənt/ *adj* [(**about**)] *usu. derog* pleased or satisfied with oneself or with a situation, often unreasonably; not worrying, even though one perhaps should be: *After so many wins we grew|got complacent and thought we'd never lose — so of course we lost the next match!* | *a complacent smile* — ~**ly** *adv*: *"I'm bound to get promoted", he said complacently.*

com·plain /kəmˈpleɪn/ *v* [I (**about, to**);T+*that*; *obj*] to express feelings of annoyance, dissatisfaction, unhappiness, etc.; say in an annoyed, unhappy, dissatisfied way: *Mary is always complaining.* | *Our neighbour said that if we made any more noise he'd complain (about us) to the police.* | *He complained that the room was too hot.* | *They complained bitterly about the injustice of the system.* — ~**er** *n* — ~**ing** *adj* — ~**ingly** *adv*

complain of sthg. *phr v* [T] to say that one has (a pain, illness, etc.): *He went to the doctor complaining of difficulty in breathing.*

com·plain·ant /kəmˈpleɪnənt/ *n law* a person who makes a complaint in a court of law; PLAINTIFF

com·plaint /kəmˈpleɪnt/ *n* **1** [C (**about, against**)] a statement or cause of annoyance, dissatisfaction, unhappiness, pain, etc.: *to make a complaint* | *The pupils made a list of their complaints about school meals.* | *The police received several complaints about the noise from our party.* | *the hospital's complaints procedure* (=system for dealing with complaints by patients) | *"How are you?" "No complaints, thanks."* (=I'm all right) **2** [U (**about**)] the act of complaining: *There's been widespread complaint about the selection procedure.* | *If your neighbours are too noisy then you have* **cause for complaint.** (=a good reason to complain) **3** [C] an illness, esp. in the stated part of the body: *a rare liver complaint* **4 lodge a complaint (against, with)** *fml or law* to complain formally (about, to): *Our neighbours lodged a complaint against us with the police|with the housing authorities.*

com·plai·sance /kəmˈpleɪzəns/ *n* [U] *fml* willingness to do what pleases others

com·plai·sant /kəmˈpleɪzənt/ *adj fml* willing to please others; ready to agree — ~**ly** *adv*

Com·pleat An·gler /kəmˌpliːt ˈæŋgləʳ/, **The** a 17th century book by Izaak Walton which told all about fishing and is still sometimes read today

com·ple·ment[1] /ˈkɒmplɨmənt‖ˈkɑːm-/ *n* **1** [(**to**)] something which, when added to something else, completes it or makes it perfect: *A fine wine is a complement to a good meal.* **2** the number or quantity needed to make something complete: *At last the English department has its* **full complement of** *teachers.* (=has all the teachers it needs) **3** (in grammar) a word or phrase (esp. a noun or adjective) that follows a verb and describes the subject of the verb: *In "John is cold" and "John became chairman", "cold" and "chairman" are complements.*

com·ple·ment[2] /ˈkɒmplɨment‖ˈkɑːm-/ *v* [T] to make (something) complete or perfect; supply what is lacking in (something): *This wine complements the food perfectly.* | *Our local bus and rail services complement each other very well.* —compare COMPLIMENT

com·ple·men·ta·ry /ˌkɒmplɨˈmentəri◂‖ˌkɑːm-/ *adj* **1** making something complete; supplying what is lacking or needed for completion **2** *tech* (of a pair of angles) making up 90° together —compare SUPPLEMENTARY (2)

complementary col·ours /ˌ····· ˈ··/ *n* [P] colours which when mixed make white or grey

complementary medi·cine /ˌ····· ˈ··/ *n* ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE when used to COMPLEMENT (=help) standard medical treatment —see also ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE; compare WESTERN MEDICINE —see also extra information on page 829

com·plete[1] /kəmˈpliːt/ *adj* **1** having all necessary, usual, or wanted parts; lacking nothing: *Is this pack of cards complete?* | *a complete wordprocessing system, with a computer, screen, and printer* | *John's birthday did not seem complete without his father there.* | *the complete gardener's kit* (=everything a good gardener needs) —opposite **incomplete** **2** [F] finished; ended: *When will work on the new railway be complete?* **3** total; thorough: *His resignation came as a complete surprise to his staff.* | *in complete control of the situation* | *I made a complete fool of myself.* | *Our humiliation was complete* **4** [F+**with**] fully or additionally supplied: *We bought the house complete with furniture.* — ~**ness** *n* [U]

complete[2] *v* [T] **1** to make (something) whole or perfect by adding what is missing: *I need one more stamp to complete my collection.* | *Seeing the family all together again completed her happiness.* **2** to finish; bring to an end (esp. something that takes a long time): *When will work be completed on the new road?* | *He completed the book with a chapter on the practical applications of his theory.* | *She has just completed an 18-month jail sentence.*

com·plete·ly /kəmˈpliːtli/ *adv* totally; in every way: *The operation was completely successful.* | *Is the work completely finished?* | *I completely forgot about it*

com·ple·tion /kəmˈpliːʃən/ *n* [U] **1** the act of completing something: *Completion of this bridge is expected in 1990.* | *We were paid* **on completion** *of the work.* (=when we finished it) | *The completion date is April 10th.* **2** the state of being complete: *The new road is near completion.*

com·plex[1] /ˈkɒmpleks‖ˌkɑːmˈpleks◂/ *adj* **1** difficult to understand, explain, or deal with; not clear or simple: *a complex problem|issue for which there is no simple solution* | *complex bureaucratic procedures* **2** consisting of many closely connected parts: *a complex network of roads connecting Glasgow and Edinburgh* | *complex machines* **3** *tech* (of a word or sentence) consisting of a main part and one or more other parts: *"Childish" is a complex word*

consisting of a main part, "child", and the suffix, "-ish".| "If it rains, I won't go" is a complex sentence with a main clause, "I won't go", and another clause, "If it rains". –compare COMPOUND² (2), SIMPLE (3)

com·plex² /ˈkɒmpleks‖ˈkɑːm-/ *n* **1** a system consisting of a large number of closely related parts: *a shopping/sports complex* (=an area containing everything needed for shopping/sport) | *a complex of welfare regulations* **2** [(**about**)] a group of unconscious confused wishes, fears, feelings, etc., which influence a person's behaviour, esp. for the worse: *He's got a persecution complex* –see also INFERIORITY COMPLEX, OEDIPUS COMPLEX, SUPERIORITY COMPLEX

com·plex·ion /kəmˈplekʃən/ *n* **1** the natural colour and appearance of the skin, esp. of the face: *a good/healthy/dark/fair/pale complexion* **2** [*usu. sing.*] a general character or nature: *This information* **puts a (whole) new complexion on** *the situation.* (=completely changes it) | *governments of various political complexions*

com·plex·i·ty /kəmˈpleksɨti/ *n* [C;U (**of**)] (an example of) the state of being COMPLEX¹ (1,2): *the complexities of the tax laws | a political problem of great complexity*

com·pli·ance /kəmˈplaɪəns/ *n* [U (**with**)] *fml* **1** obedience to a rule, agreement, demand, etc.: *Compliance with the law is expected of all citizens.* **2** the tendency to agree (too) willingly to other people's wishes or demands: *His compliance with everything we suggest makes it hard to know what he really feels.* –see also COMPLY

com·pli·ant /kəmˈplaɪənt/ *adj* readily acting in accordance with a rule, order, the wishes of others, etc. –see also COMPLY – **~ly** *adv*

com·pli·cate /ˈkɒmplɨkeɪt‖ˈkɑːm-/ *v* [T] **1** to make (something) difficult to understand or deal with: *There are six candidates and, to complicate matters still further, every voter has four votes! | Plans for the release of political prisoners were complicated by a fresh outbreak of terrorist activity.* –compare SIMPLIFY **2** [*often pass.*] to make (a situation, esp. an illness) worse: *a serious disease complicated by an additional bacterial infection*

com·pli·cat·ed /ˈkɒmplɨkeɪtɨd‖ˈkɑːm-/ *adj* **1** difficult to understand or deal with: *a complicated legal problem. | It's rather complicated to explain, but I'll try.* **2** consisting of many closely related or connected parts: *a complicated machine* – **~ly** *adv* – **~ness** *n* [U]

com·pli·ca·tion /ˌkɒmplɨˈkeɪʃən‖ˌkɑːm-/ *n* **1** something that makes a situation, process, etc, more complicated: *The car ran out of petrol, and as a further complication I had no money! | the complications of the plot* **2** a new illness that happens during the course of another illness, making treatment more difficult: *The doctors were sure they could cure the patient, but when complications set in they lost hope.*

com·plic·i·ty /kəmˈplɪsɨti/ *n* [U (**in**)] *fml* the act of taking part with another person in some wrong action, esp. a crime: *He denied complicity in the murder.* –see also ACCOMPLICE

com·pli·ment¹ /ˈkɒmplɨmənt‖ˈkɑːm-/ *n* [(**on**)] an expression of praise, admiration, or respect: *He was showered with compliments on his excellent performance. | They* **paid her the compliment** *of making her an honorary member. | She said how nice my dress was, so I* **returned the compliment** *and said I liked hers.* –see also COMPLIMENTS, **fish for compliments** (FISH² (4))

com·pli·ment² /ˈkɒmplɨment‖ˈkɑːm-/ *v* [T (**on**)] to praise with a compliment: *John complimented Jean (on her new dress). | I must compliment you on the way you handled the meeting.* –compare COMPLEMENT, FLATTER (1)

com·pli·men·ta·ry /ˌkɒmplɨˈmentəri◂‖ˌkɑːm-/ *adj* **1** expressing admiration, praise, respect, etc.: *complimentary remarks | My boss was very complimentary about my work.* –opposite **uncomplimentary** **2** [*no comp.*] given free as a favour or out of respect: *complimentary tickets for the theatre*

com·pli·ments /ˈkɒmplɨmənts‖ˈkɑːm-/ *n* [P] good wishes: *That was an excellent dinner – my compliments to the chef!*

compliment slip /ˈ··· ˌ·/ *n* a piece of paper with a company's name and address on it which is sent out with other papers, etc., instead of a proper letter –compare COVERING LETTER

com·pline , -plin /ˈkɒmplɨn‖ˈkɑːm-/ *n* [U] *tech* (*often cap.*) (esp. in the Roman Catholic Church) the last religious service held in the evening –compare EVENSONG, VESPERS

com·ply /kəmˈplaɪ/ *v* [I (**with**)] *fml* to act in accordance with a demand, rule, etc.: *He reluctantly complied with their wishes. | The factory was closed for failing to comply with government safety regulations.* –see also COMPLIANCE

com·po·nent /kəmˈpəʊnənt/ *n* any of the parts that together make a whole machine or system: *the components/***component parts** *of a camera | Revenues from oil are the biggest single component in the country's income.* –compare CONSTITUENT¹ (2)

com·port /kəmˈpɔːt‖-ɔːrt/ *v* [T+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] *fml, often pomp* to behave (oneself) in the stated way: *She comported herself well.*

com·port·ment /kəmˈpɔːtmənt‖-ɔːr-/ *n* [U] *fml, often pomp* behaviour; manner

com·pose /kəmˈpəʊz/ *v* **1** [I;T] to write or produce (music, poetry, etc.): *to compose a symphony/(*fml *) a letter | This piece of music was composed for the piano.* –see also COMPOSER, COMPOSITION **2** [T] to make (esp. oneself) calm, quiet, etc.: *Jean was nervous at first but soon composed herself. | She remained perfectly composed throughout the trial.* –see also COMPOSURE **3** [T] *fml* to settle (a point of disagreement): *The two leaders soon composed their differences and became friends.* **4** [T] *tech* (in printing) to form (words, sentences, pages, etc.) ready for printing –see also COMPOSITOR **5 be composed of** to be formed from (the stated parts): *Water is composed of hydrogen and oxygen.* –see also DECOMPOSE; see COMPRISE (USAGE)

com·pos·er /kəmˈpəʊzəʳ/ *n* a person who writes music: *Beethoven, Mozart, and all the great classical composers* –compare MUSICIAN

com·pos·ite /ˈkɒmpəzɨt‖kɑːmˈpɑː-/ *n* **1** something made up of different parts or materials **2** *AmE for* IDENTIKIT –**composite** *adj* [A] : *a composite picture*

com·po·si·tion /ˌkɒmpəˈzɪʃən‖ˌkɑːm-/ *n* **1** [U] the act of composing music, poetry, etc.: *He played a piece of music of his own composition.* (=which he had composed) **2** [C] a piece of music or art, or a poem: *This is one of Bach's later compositions.* **3** [C;U (**of**)] (the arrangement of) the various parts from which something is made up: *scientific instruments for analyzing the chemical composition of plants | changes in the composition of the committee as a result of the election* **4** [C] an ESSAY (=a short piece of writing) done as an educational exercise **5** [U] *tech* the arrangement of or process of arranging words, sentences, pages, etc., for printing

com·pos·i·tor /kəmˈpɒzɨtəʳ‖-ˈpɑː-/ *n* a person who arranges words, sentences, pages, etc., ready for printing

com·pos men·tis /ˌkɒmpəs ˈmentɨs‖ˌkɑːm-/ *adj* [F] *esp. law* able to think clearly and be responsible for one's actions –opposite **non compos mentis**

com·post¹ /ˈkɒmpɒst‖ˈkɑːmpəʊst/ *n* [U] a mixture of decayed plant matter, such as grass or leaves, used for making the soil richer

compost² *v* [T] to put compost on or make compost from

compost heap /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a place, usu. in a garden, where plant matter is piled up to make compost

com·po·sure /kəmˈpəʊʒəʳ/ *n* [U] calmness; a steady unworried manner or state of mind: *Keep calm: don't lose your composure!* –see also COMPOSE (2)

com·pote /ˈkɒmpɒt, -pəʊt‖ˈkɑːmpəʊt/ *n* [C;U] fruit cooked in sweetened water and usu. eaten cold

com·pound¹ /ˈkɒmpaʊnd‖ˈkɑːm-/ *n* **1** a combination of two or more parts, substances, etc., esp. a chemical substance consisting of at least two different simple substances (ELEMENTS) combined so as to have qualities different from those of the substances from which it is made: *Sulphur dioxide (SO_2) is a compound made from sulphur and oxygen. | natural compounds* –compare MIXTURE (1) **2** a compound word

compound² *adj* **1** (of a single whole) consisting of two or more parts, substances, etc.: *an insect's compound eye | a compound leaf* (=made of several small leaves joined to one stem) **2** *tech* (of a word or sentence) consisting of two or more main parts: *"Childcare" is a compound*

word consisting of the two main parts "child" and "care". —compare COMPLEX[1] (3), SIMPLE (3)

com·pound[3] /kəm'paʊnd/ *v* [T] **1** [*often pass.*] to make worse by adding to or increasing; EXACERBATE: *Our difficulties were compounded by the language barrier.* | *to compound an error* **2** [(**from, of**)] to make (a substance or quality) by combining parts: *The medicine was compounded from several drugs.* **3** [(**into**)] to combine (parts) to form a whole: *He compounded the drugs into a medicine.*

com·pound[4] /'kɒmpaʊnd‖'kɑːm-/ *n* an area enclosed by a wall, fence, etc., containing a group of buildings: *a factory|prison compound*

compound frac·ture /ˌ·· '··/ *n med* a break or crack in a bone which causes it to cut through the surrounding flesh, making an open wound —compare SIMPLE FRACTURE

compound in·terest /ˌ·· '··/ *n* [U] interest calculated both on the original sum of money lent or borrowed and on the unpaid interest already earned or charged —compare SIMPLE INTEREST

com·pre·hend /ˌkɒmprɪ'hend‖ˌkɑːm-/ *v* [*not in progressive forms*] *fml* **1** [I;T] to understand: *The child read the story but did not comprehend its full meaning.* **2** [T] to include: *The park comprehends all the land on the other side of the river.*

com·pre·hen·si·ble /ˌkɒmprɪ'hensəbəl‖ˌkɑːm-/ *adj* [(**to**)] *fml* that can be understood: *a long, scarcely comprehensible report written in official language* | *This document is comprehensible only to lawyers.* —opposite **incomprehensible** —**-bly** *adv* —**-bility** /ˌkɒmprɪhensə'bɪlətiˌkɑːm-/ *n* [U]

com·pre·hen·sion /ˌkɒmprɪ'henʃən‖ˌkɑːm-/ *n* [U (**of**)] *fml* the act of understanding or ability to understand: *How he managed it is* **beyond my comprehension** (=I cannot understand it). | *The teacher set the class a comprehension test.* (=to test the students' ability to understand written or spoken language)

com·pre·hen·sive[1] /ˌkɒmprɪ'hensɪv‖ˌkɑːm-/ *adj* **1** thorough; broad; including a lot or everything: *a newspaper that provides comprehensive coverage of world affairs* | *a comprehensive knowledge of his subject* | *comprehensive insurance* **2** [*no comp.*] *BrE* (of education) teaching pupils of all abilities in the same school: *the controversy over comprehensive education in the sixties* —**~ly** *adv*

comprehensive[2] also **comprehensive school** /ˌ··'·· ·/— *n* (in Britain) a school for pupils over the age of 11 which teaches children of all abilities.

►CULTURAL NOTE The **comprehensive system** was introduced in 1965 and largely replaced the old system of GRAMMAR SCHOOLS and SECONDARY MODERNS, which took pupils depending on whether they had passed or failed an exam called the ELEVEN-PLUS. There was great public argument about the change. Some people were afraid that the standard of education in Britain would fall. Others felt strongly that it was unfair to separate children out at the age of 11. Over 80% of British pupils now attend comprehensive schools. Although in most parts of Britain there is now no examination at 11, children are often put in groups according to their level of ability at a comprehensive: *I considered public school for my son, but in the end decided to send him to the local comprehensive.* —compare GRAMMAR SCHOOL, PUBLIC SCHOOL, SECONDARY MODERN◄

com·press[1] /kəm'pres/ *v* [T (**into**)] **1** to force (a substance) into less space; press together: *compressed air* **2** to put (thoughts, ideas, etc.) into fewer words: *He compressed his report into three pages.* —**~ible** *adj* : *a compressible gas* —**~ion** /'preʃən/ *n* [U] : *a compression chamber*

com·press[2] /'kɒmpres‖'kɑːm-/ *n* a small thick mass of cloth pressed to part of the body, esp. to stop bleeding or swelling, reduce fever, etc.: *She applied a* **cold compress** *to his sprained ankle.*

com·pres·sor /kəm'presəʳ/ *n* a part of a machine, for compressing gas or air

com·prise /kəm'praɪz/ *v* [*not in progressive forms*] **1** [L+*n*] to consist of (parts): *The United Kingdom comprises England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland.* | *a commission of inquiry comprising three eminent judges and three members of the public.* **2** [T] (of parts) to form: *Fifteen separate republics comprise the Soviet Union.*

▷USAGE Compare **comprise, compose, consist of, constitute,** and **include**: *The United Kingdom* **consists of|is composed of|comprises** *England, Wales, Scotland,and Northern Ireland.* (=these are all the parts that together form it) | *England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland* **constitute|comprise** (=together form) *the United Kingdom.* | *The United Kingdom* **includes** *Northern Ireland and Wales.* (=these are two of the parts that together form the United Kingdom, but there are others) **Be comprised of** is sometimes used in the sense of **'consists of'**: *A chess set* **is comprised of** *32 chessmen,* but some people consider this use to be incorrect.◁

com·pro·mise[1] /'kɒmprəmaɪz‖'kɑːm-/ *n* [C;U (**between**)] (an act of) settling an argument or difference of opinion by each side agreeing to some of the demands of the other; an agreement reached in this way that is acceptable to both sides: *Progress has been made towards a political compromise between the two nations.* | *He asked £1500 for his old car, but I thought it was only worth £1000. We finally reached|arrived at a compromise and I paid £1250.* | *Both sides are determined to get what they want, and there seems to be no possiblity of compromise.*

compromise[2] *v* **1** [I (**on**)] to make a compromise: *He asked more than I was willing to pay, so we compromised on a price.* **2** [T] to put into a dishonourable position; bring shame to: *They refused to compromise their principles by doing a deal with the terrorists.* | *The minister was compromised by his association with the prostitute.*

com·pro·mis·ing /'kɒmprəmaɪzɪŋ‖'kɑːm-/ *adj* [A] dishonourable and making one feel very ashamed: *You have put me in a very compromising position.* | *She found some compromising photographs in his wallet.*

Comp·ton /'kʌmptən/, **Den·is** /'denɨs/ (1918–) an English cricketer and footballer

comp·trol·ler /kən'trəʊləʳ, kəmp-/ *n fml* (an official title for) a CONTROLLER (2)

com·pul·sion /kəm'pʌlʃən/ *n* **1** [U] force or influence that makes a person do something: [+*to-v*] *You are under no compulsion to tell me, but it will be better for you if you do.* —see also COMPEL **2** [C] a strong desire, usu. an unreasonable one, that is difficult to control: [+*to-v*] *She felt a sudden compulsion to hit him.*

com·pul·sive /kəm'pʌlsɪv/ *adj* **1** resulting from a compulsion; very difficult to stop or control: *a compulsive need to succeed* | *compulsive eating* **2** suffering from one or more compulsions: *a compulsive gambler* —**~ly** *adv* —**~ness** *n* [U]

compulsive shop·per /·ˌ·· '··/ a SPENDAHOLIC

com·pul·so·ry /kəm'pʌlsəri/ *adj* which must be done by law, by orders, etc.; OBLIGATORY: *Education is compulsory for all children in Britain between the ages of 5 and 16.* | *a campaign to make the wearing of car seat belts compulsory* —compare VOLUNTARY[1] (1) —**-rily** *adv*

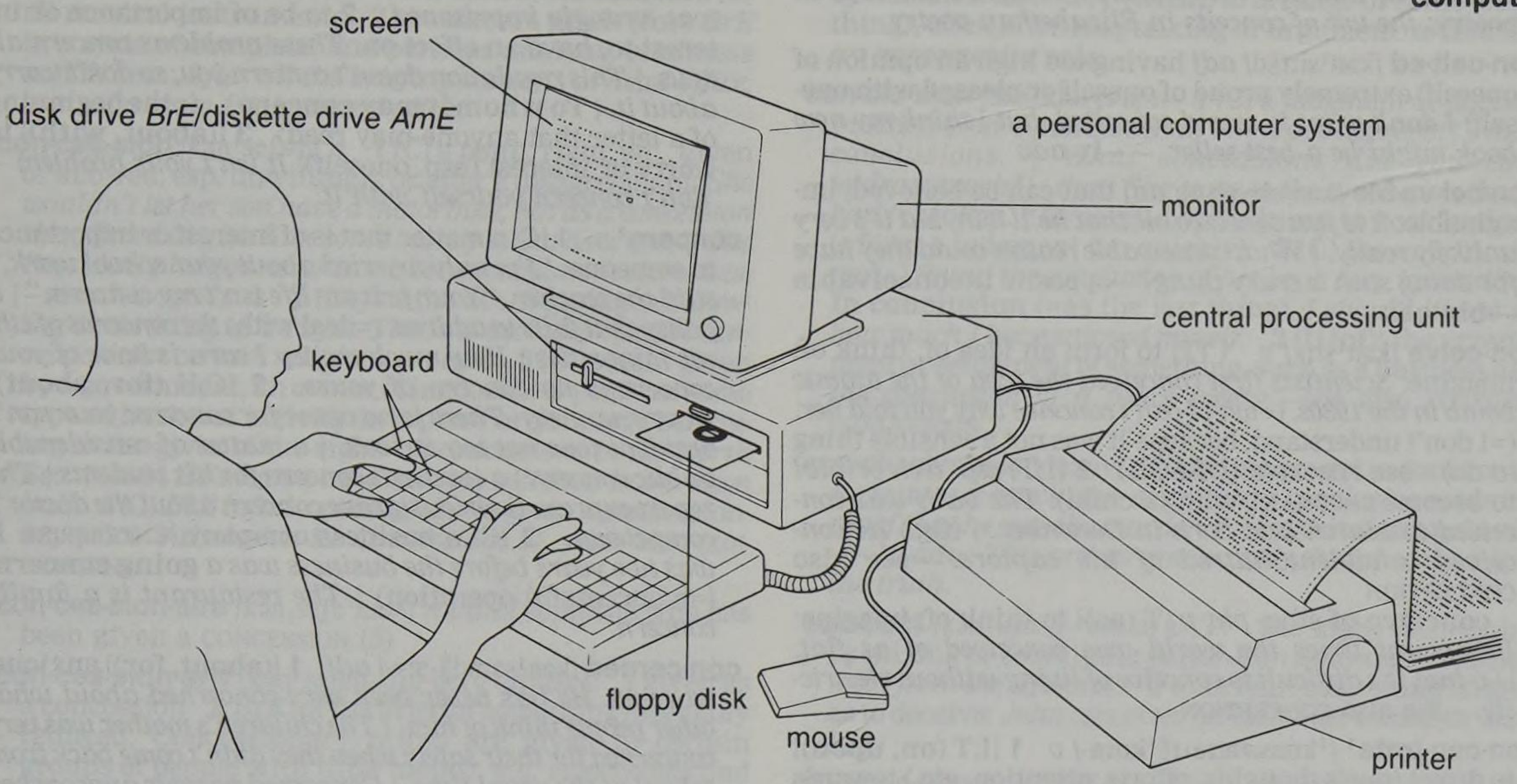
com·punc·tion /kəm'pʌŋkʃən/ *n* [U *usu. in questions and negatives*] an awkward feeling of guilt that stops one doing something: *She didn't have the slightest compunction about telling me a lie.*

com·pu·ta·tion /ˌkɒmpjʊ'teɪʃən‖ˌkɑː-/ also **computations** *pl.*— *n* [C;U] *fml* (the result of) calculating: *According to my computation(s), the bank should pay me £100 interest.*

com·pute /kəm'pjuːt/ *v* [I;T] *fml* to calculate (a result, answer, sum, etc.)

com·put·er /kəm'pjuːtəʳ/ *n* an electronic machine that can be supplied with a PROGRAM (=plan of operations) and can store and recall information, and perform various processes on it. A computer is now a standard piece of office equipment, often used by all members of STAFF, esp. as a WORD PROCESSOR: *We use a computer to do our accounts.* | *a home|personal computer* | *the most up-to-date computer software* | *a new computer-controlled heating system* | *I sent the sample for computer analysis.* —see also MAINFRAME, MICROCOMPUTER, MINICOMPUTER, PERSONAL COMPUTER, WORD PROCESSOR

computer-aid·ed de·sign /·ˌ·· ·· ·'·/ also **CAD**— *n* [U] the use of COMPUTER GRAPHICS in industry as part of the process of planning how to make such things as cars, aircraft, buildings, and electronic equipment: *a computer-aided design system*



computer dat·ing a·gen·cy /ˈ·ˌ·· ˈ·· ˌ···/ *n* a DATING AGENCY that uses computers to find partners for people

computer game /ˈ·ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* a game played on a computer, often in which the player takes part in an imaginary story and tries to destroy enemies or save people from danger

computer graph·ics /ˈ·ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [P] information in the form of images which can be stored, changed, or OUTPUT by a computer. As well as being used in industry, computer graphics are thought by some people to be a modern art form.

computer hack·er /ˈ·ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [C] see HACKER

com·put·er·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /kəmˈpjuːtəraɪz/ *v* [I;T] to use or begin to use a computer to control (an operation, system, etc.): *The firm has decided to computerize its wages department.* | *Our firm computerized years ago!* | *computerized criminal records* —**-ization** /kəmˌpjuːtəraɪˈzeɪʃən‖-rə-/ *n* [U]

computer mo·del·ling /ˈ·ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n* [U] the building of a picture of an object on a computer so that it can be looked at from any angle. It is esp. used in the planning of such things as cars, buildings, etc., and when information collected by other machines, e.g. in outer space, is needed in a form that people can see.

computer pro·gram·mer /ˈ·ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n* a person whose job is to PROGRAM[2] (1) computers

computer sci·ence /ˈ·ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [U] the study of computers and what they can do, often as a main subject: *a computer science major|degree* | *She studied computer science at Cornell.*

computer vi·rus /ˈ·ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* a PROGRAM (=plan of operations) secretly introduced into a computer which makes copies of itself and often damages other programs on the computer, including the OPERATING SYSTEM. They are introduced by electronic VANDALs or e.g. by a worker who has some reason to be angry with the company, and begin to operate at a particular signal, e.g. a name or a date.

com·put·ing /kəmˈpjuːtɪŋ/ *n* [U] the act or job of working with computers

com·rade /ˈkɒmrɨd, -reɪd‖ˈkɑːmræd/ *n* **1** *fml* a close companion, esp. a person who shares difficult work or danger: *his comrades in the navy* —compare COMPANION, PARTNER **2** (esp. used as a title in Communist countries or among LEFT-WING groups) a fellow member of a union, political party, etc.: *Comrades, please support this motion.*| *Comrade Gorbachev* — ~**ly** *adj*

comrade in arms /ˌ·· · ˈ·/ *n* **comrades in arms** (in the military) someone who fights on the same side as oneself: *(fig) We're comrades in arms on the local council.*

com·rade·ship /ˈkɒmrɨdʃɪp, -reɪd-‖ˈkɑːmræd-/ *n* [U] *fml* companionship; friendship

coms /kɒmz‖kɑːmz/ *n* [P] *infml for* **1** COMBINATIONS **2** COMMUNICATIONS

con[1] /kɒn‖kɑːn/ *v* **-nn-** [T (**into, out of**)] *infml* **1** to trick (a trusting person), usu. in order to make money: *I'm afraid you've been conned.* | *They've conned me out of £5!* **2** to persuade, esp. by deceit: *He conned me into doing all his work for him.*

con[2] *n infml* a trick, esp. a CONFIDENCE TRICK —see also MOD CON, PROS AND CONS

con[3] *n sl* a prisoner; CONVICT —see also EX-CON

con[4] *v* **-nn-** [T] *old use* to study or examine (something) very carefully in order to learn it

Con *written abbrev. for:* CONSERVATIVE PARTY

Co·nan Doyle /ˌkəʊnən ˈdɔɪl/, **Sir Arthur** (1859–1930) a British doctor and writer who wrote stories about the famous DETECTIVE Sherlock Holmes —see also Sherlock HOLMES, HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES

con-art·ist /ˈ· ··/ *n infml* someone who tricks or deceives people in a criminal way, usu. in order to get money from them

conc *written abbrev. for* CONCESSIONARY

con·cat·e·nate /kɒnˈkætɨneɪt‖kɑːn-/ *v* [T] *fml or tech* to join together as in a chain —**-nation** /kɒnˌkætɨˈneɪʃən‖kɑːn-/ *n* [C;U] : *a concatenation of events* (=a set of events coming one after the other)

con·cave /ˌkɒnˈkeɪv◂, kən-‖ˌkɑːnˈkeɪv◂, kən-/ *adj* curved inwards, like the inside surface of a hollow ball: *a concave mirror* —opposite **convex**

con·cav·i·ty /kənˈkævɨti/ *n fml* **1** [U] the state of being concave **2** [C] a concave place or shape

con·ceal /kənˈsiːl/ *v* [T (**from**)] *rather fml* to hide; keep from being seen or known: *He concealed his feelings|his debts from his wife.* | *He was found to be carrying a concealed weapon.* | *She tried to conceal how she felt.*

con·ceal·ment /kənˈsiːlmənt/ *n* [U] *fml* **1** the act of concealing: *Concealment of evidence is a criminal offence.* **2** the state of being concealed: *The criminals stayed in concealment* (=hidden) *until the police had passed.*

con·cede /kənˈsiːd/ *v* [T] **1** to admit as true, correct, or proper, often unwillingly: *The government conceded defeat as soon as the election results were known.* [+*that*] *I'm willing to concede that he's a good runner, but I still think I can beat him.* | *I concede that particular point, but I still think you're wrong.* **2** [(**to**)] to give as a right or PRIVILEGE: *After the First World War Germany conceded a lot of land (to her neighbours).* **3** to allow by accident; used esp. in newspapers: *Despite conceding a goal in the first five minutes, the Cowboys went on to win the game.* —see also CONCESSION

con·ceit /kənˈsiːt/ *n* **1** [U] also **con·ceit·ed·ness** /kənˈsiːtɨdnɨs/— too high an opinion of one's own abilities, value, importance, etc. **2** [C] *tech* an unusual, cleverly

expressed, but not very serious comparison, esp. in poetry: *the use of conceits in Elizabethan poetry*

con·ceit·ed /kənˈsiːtɨd/ *adj* having too high an opinion of oneself; extremely proud of oneself or pleased with oneself: *I don't want to sound conceited, but I think my new book might be a best-seller.* —~**ly** *adv*

con·cei·va·ble /kənˈsiːvəbəl/ *adj* that can be believed; imaginable: *It is just conceivable that he'll win, but it's very unlikely really.* | *What conceivable reason could they have for doing such a crazy thing?* —opposite **inconceivable** —**-bly** *adv*

con·ceive /kənˈsiːv/ *v* **1** [T] to form an idea of; think of; imagine: *Scientists first conceived the idea of the atomic bomb in the 1930s.* [+*wh-*] *I can't conceive why you told her.* (=I don't understand, because it was not a sensible thing to do) —see PERCEIVE (USAGE) **2** [I;T] *esp. tech or bibl* to become PREGNANT with (a child): *The baby was conceived in March and born in December.* | (fig.) *He conceived a violent hatred of his captors.* —see also CONCEPTION

conceive of sthg. *phr v* [T (**as**)] to think of; imagine: *In ancient times the world was conceived of as flat.* [+*v-ing*] *It's difficult to conceive of living without electricity.* —see also CONCEPTION

con·cen·trate[1] /ˈkɒnsəntreɪt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *v* **1** [I;T (**on, upon**)] to direct (one's thoughts, efforts, attention, etc.) towards a particular activity or purpose: *I can't concentrate (on my work) when I'm hungry.* | *The terrorists concentrated their activities on the main supply routes.* | *This year the company has concentrated on improving its efficiency.* **2** [I+*adv/prep*;T+*obj*+*adv/prep*] to (cause to) come together in or around one place: *Industrial development is being concentrated in the south of the country.* | *The crowds concentrated round the palace.* **3** [T] *tech* to make (esp. a liquid) stronger by removing some of the water from it

concentrate[2] *n* [C;U] a concentrated material or liquid: *orange juice concentrate*

con·cen·trat·ed /ˈkɒnsəntreɪtɨd‖ˈkɑːn-/ *adj* **1** increased in strength by the removal of liquid or the addition of more of a substance: *concentrated orange juice* **2** [A] showing concentration and determination: *He has made a concentrated effort to improve his work.* | *a concentrated mind*

con·cen·tra·tion /ˌkɒnsənˈtreɪʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* **1** [U] the direction of attention towards a single thing, idea, subject, etc.: *Her work as a simultaneous translator requires strong powers of concentration.* | *I lost my concentration and nearly drove into a bridge* | *poor concentration* **2** [C;U] a close gathering: *There is a concentration of industry in the south of the country.* | *the increasing concentration of power in central government* **3** [S] *tech* the measure of the amount of a substance contained in a liquid: *a high concentration of sulphuric acid*

concentration camp /ˌ··ˈ·· ·/ *n* a large enclosed area where political prisoners or people considered as threats to the state are imprisoned. During the Second World War the Nazis sent many millions of people, esp. Jews, to concentration camps, where more than six million people were killed: *Both his parents died in the concentration camps.* —see also AUSCHWITZ, HOLOCAUST

con·cen·tric /kənˈsentrɪk/ *adj* [(**with**)] *tech* having the same centre: *concentric circles*

con·cept /ˈkɒnsept‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* [(**of**)] a thought, idea, or principle; NOTION: *It is difficult to grasp the concept of infinite space.*

con·cep·tion /kənˈsepʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U (**of**)] (a) general understanding; idea: *He's got a pretty strange conception of friendship.* | *You've no conception of what it was like to be there.* **2** [U] the act of forming an idea, plan, etc.: *The conception of the book took five minutes, but writing it took a year.* **3** [C;U] *tech* the starting of a new life by the union of a male and a female sex cell

con·cep·tu·al /kənˈseptʃuəl/ *adj fml* of or based on the formation of concepts: *the conceptual framework of the play* —~**ly** *adv*

conceptual art /·ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* [U] *tech* art in which the artist intends to describe an idea rather than make an art object

con·cep·tu·al·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /kənˈseptʃuəlaɪz/ *v* [I;T] to form a concept (of)

con·cern[1] /kənˈsɜːn‖-ɜːrn/ *v* [T *not usu. in progressive forms*] **1** [*no pass.*] to be about: *This article concerns a man who was wrongly imprisoned.* **2** to be of importance or interest to; have an effect on: *These problems concern all of us.* | *This regulation doesn't concern you, so don't worry about it.* | **To whom it may concern** ... (=the beginning of a letter that anyone may read) **3** [(**about, with**)] to worry or interest (esp. oneself): *It isn't your problem — don't concern yourself with it.*

concern[2] *n* **1** [C] a matter that is of interest or importance to someone: *"I'm only worried about your school work," said the teacher. "Your private life isn't my concern."* | *a policy that fails to address* (=deal with) *the concerns of ethnic minorities* | *How much money I earn is none of your concern|is no concern of yours.* **2** [C;U (**for, about**)] worry; anxiety: *There is no cause for concern; your son's accident was not too serious.* | *a matter of considerable public concern* | *a teacher's concern for his students* | *The report expressed serious|grave concern about the doctor's competence.* **3** [C] a business company; ENTERPRISE: *It was two years before the business was a* **going concern**. (=a successful operation) | *The restaurant is a family concern.*

con·cerned /kənˈsɜːnd‖-ɜːr-/ *adj* **1** [(**about, for**)] anxious; worried: *He has never been very concerned about what other people think of him.* | *The children's mother was very concerned for their safety when they didn't come back from school at the usual time.* | *Concerned parents approached the school about the problem.* —see NERVOUS (USAGE) **2** [F (**for**)] having an active personal interest; SOLICITOUS: *I am concerned for their happiness.* [+*to-v|that*] *She's most concerned to solve this problem|that this problem should be solved.* —see also UNCONCERNED **3** [F (**in**);after *n*] having something to do with; taking part: *Everyone who was concerned in the affair regrets it very much.* | *I have enjoyed my visit very much, and would like to thank all (the people) concerned.* | *I'll pass on your comments to the people concerned.* **4 as far as I'm/you're, etc., concerned** to the degree that it has an influence on or matters to me/you, etc.: *As far as we're concerned you can go whenever you want.* (=We don't mind when you go.) | *As far as I'm concerned* (=in my opinion) *the whole idea is crazy.* **5 be concerned with** to be about: *This story is concerned with a Russian family in the 19th century.* **6 where something is concerned** in matters that have an effect on something: *Where money is concerned, I always try to be very careful.*

con·cern·ed·ly /kənˈsɜːnɨdli‖-ɜːr-/ *adv* in a concerned way

con·cern·ing /kənˈsɜːnɪŋ‖-ɜːr-/ *prep rather fml* about; with regard to; in connection with: *Concerning your request, I am pleased to inform you that ...* | *Police are anxious to hear any information concerning his whereabouts.*

con·cert /ˈkɒnsət‖ˈkɑːnsərt/ *n* **1** a performance given by a number of musicians: *to attend a concert of Vivaldi's music* | *record crowds at Elton John's concert on Saturday* | *tickets for a pop concert* —compare RECITAL (1) **2 in concert: a** *fml* working together; in agreement: *The various governments decided to act in concert over this matter.* **b** playing or singing at a concert: *We went to see Cliff Richard in concert at the Palladium.*

con·cert·ed /kənˈsɜːtɨd‖-ɜːr-/ *adj* planned or done together by agreement; combined: *The European governments made a* **concerted effort** *to stop drug smuggling.* —~**ly** *adv*

con·cert·go·er /ˈkɒnsətˌgəʊəʳ‖ˈkɑːnsərt-/ *n* a person who often goes to concerts

concert grand /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* a piano of the largest size, played esp. at concerts

concert hall /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a large public building where esp. concerts are performed

con·cer·ti·na[1] /ˌkɒnsəˈtiːnə‖ˌkɑːnsər-/ *n* a small musical instrument of the ACCORDION family, held and played in the hands by pressing in from each side

concertina[2] *v* **-naed, -naing** [I] *BrE infml* (of a vehicle) to become pressed together like a concertina as the result of a crash: *The lorry concertinaed when it hit the wall.*

con·cert·mas·ter /ˈkɒnsətˌmɑːstəʳ‖ˈkɑːnsərtˌmæs-/ *n AmE for* LEADER (3)

con·cer·to /kənˈtʃɜːtəʊ‖-ˈtʃertəʊ/ *n* **-tos** a piece of music for one or more SOLO instruments and ORCHESTRA

concert pitch /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* [U] **1** *tech* the PITCH (=the degree

of highness or lowness of sound) used as the standard for all musical instruments **2 at concert pitch (for)** *BrE* in a state of complete, and perhaps anxious, readiness and fitness: *After all the briefing sessions at head office, our sales team is at concert pitch.*

con·ces·sion /kənˈseʃən/ *n* **1** [C] a point, right, etc., given or allowed, esp. unwillingly or after a disagreement: *She wouldn't let her son have a motorbike, but as a concession she offered to give him some money towards a car.* | *The President pledged never to make concessions to terrorists.* —see also CONCEDE **2** [U] *fml* the act of giving or allowing something as a right: *The law includes special concessions for certain religious groups.* **3** [C] a right given by a government, an owner of land, etc., to perform some type of business activity in a place or property belonging to the giver of the right: *oil concessions in the North Sea* [+*to-v*] *He's won a concession to sell food in the town hall* **4** [C] *BrE infml* a person who is given a concessionary price: *Admission £2. Concessions £1.* —see also CONCESSIONS

con·ces·sion·aire /kənˌseʃəˈneəʳ/ *n infml* someone who has been given a CONCESSION (3)

con·ces·sion·ar·y /kənˈseʃənəri‖-neri/ *adj BrE* **1** given as a concession **2** *BrE* (of the price of something) specially reduced. Concessionary prices are given to certain groups of people with little money, e.g. PENSIONERS and students, for various things, e.g. travel or entry to a theatre or cinema.

con·ces·sions /kənˈseʃənz/ *n* [P] *AmE* the goods available from a CONCESSION STAND

concession stand /ˈ·ˌ·· ˌ·/ *n AmE* a small business that sells food and drinks or SOUVENIRS at a sporting event, cinema, theatre, or tourist attraction: *You can get hot dogs at the concession stand over there.*

concessive clause /kənˌsesɪv ˈklɔːz/ *n* a CLAUSE, often introduced by *although,* which shows willingness to CONCEDE (=to admit) a point that goes against the main argument of a sentence: *The sentence "Although it's old, it still works well", begins with a concessive clause.*

conch /kɒntʃ, kɒŋk‖kɑː-/ *n* (the large twisted shell of) a SNAIL-like tropical sea animal

con·chie , conchy /ˈkɒnʃi‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n derog, esp. BrE* a CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR

con·chol·o·gy /kɒŋˈkɒlədʒi‖kɑːŋˈkɑː-/ *n* [U] *tech* the scientific study of shells and the animals that live in them —**-gist** *n*

con·ci·erge /ˌkɒnsiˈeəʒ‖ˌkɑːnsiˈerʒ/ *n Fr* **1** (esp. in France) a person who looks after the entrance to a block of flats **2** *esp. AmE* a person working in a hotel who looks after the special needs of guests

con·cil·i·ate /kənˈsɪlieɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to win the support or friendly feelings of (someone), removing the anger or distrust they felt before —**-ator** *n*

con·cil·i·a·tion /kənˌsɪliˈeɪʃən/ *n* [U] the act or process of conciliating: *The government ignored the union's attempts at conciliation.*

conciliation ser·vice /ˈ·ˌ··ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n BrE* an organization which tries to bring about agreement between the opposite sides when there is an industrial disagreement: *The conciliation service failed to resolve the dispute between management and the union.* —see also ACAS

con·cil·i·a·to·ry /kənˈsɪliətəri‖-tɔːri/ *adj* trying to conciliate or intended to conciliate: *a conciliatory gesture|attitude*

con·cise /kənˈsaɪs/ *adj* short and clear; expressing a lot in a few words: *a concise explanation|book|speaker* — ~**ly** *adv*

con·ci·sion /kənˈsɪʒən/ also **con·cise·ness** /kənˈsaɪsnəs/— *n* [U] the quality of being concise: *the clarity and concision of his account*

con·clave /ˈkɒŋkleɪv‖ˈkɑːŋ-/ *n* [C (**of**)+*sing./pl. v*] a private, secret meeting: *A conclave of cardinals was held to elect the new Pope.* | *The ministers sat|met* **in conclave** *to consider the matter.*

con·clude /kənˈkluːd/ *v rather fml* **1** [I;T (**by, with**)] to (cause to) come to an end: *We concluded the meeting at 8 o'clock with a prayer|by saying a prayer.* **2** [T+*that*; *obj; not in progressive forms*] to come to believe after consideration of known facts; reach a decision or judgment (that): *The inquiry concluded that the accident had been caused by human error.* **3** [T (**with**)] to arrange or settle (something), often after long talking or argument: *to conclude an agreement|a sale*

con·clu·sion /kənˈkluːʒən/ *n* **1** [C] a judgment or decision reached after consideration: *These are the report's main conclusions.* | *What conclusions did you come to|draw|reach?* [+*that*] *She came to the conclusion that he had forgotten.* | *Be careful not to* **jump to conclusions**. (=form a judgment too quickly) **2** [C] the end; closing part: *I found the conclusion of his book very interesting.* | **In conclusion** (=as the last thing), *I should like to say how much I have enjoyed myself.* **3** [U (**of**)] the arrangement or settlement of something, such as a business deal: *the conclusion of a peace treaty* —see also FOREGONE CONCLUSION

con·clu·sive /kənˈkluːsɪv/ *adj* putting an end to doubt or uncertainty: *a conclusive argument* | *conclusive evidence* | *proof that he was the murderer* —opposite **inconclusive** — ~**ly** *adv* : *This proves conclusively that she was telling the truth.*

con·coct /kənˈkɒkt‖-ˈkɑːkt/ *v* [T] **1** to make (something) by mixing or combining parts: *Jean concocted a splendid meal from the leftovers.* **2** to invent (something false) so as to deceive: *John concocted an elaborate excuse for being late.*

con·coc·tion /kənˈkɒkʃən‖-ˈkɑːk-/ *n* something concocted: *They gave me a very strange concoction to drink.*

con·com·i·tant[1] /kənˈkɒmɪtənt‖-ˈkɑː-/ *adj* [(**with**)] *fml* existing or happening together with something else: *war with all its concomitant sufferings* — ~**ly** *adv*

concomitant[2] *n* [(**of**)] *fml* something that often or naturally goes with something else: *Deafness is a frequent concomitant of old age.*

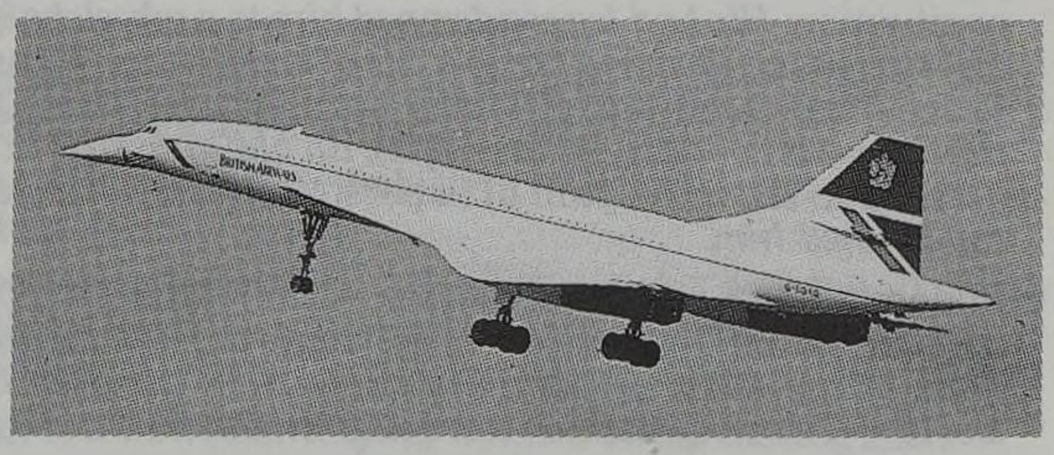
con·cord /ˈkɒŋkɔːd‖ˈkɑːŋkɔːrd/ *n* [U] **1** *fml* friendly relationship; peace and agreement: *These neighbouring states had lived in concord for centuries.* —compare DISCORD **2** *tech* (in grammar) agreement between words, esp. between a verb and the subject of a sentence

con·cor·dance /kənˈkɔːdəns‖-ɔːr-/ *n tech* an alphabetical list of all the words used in a book or collection of books by one writer, with information about where they can be found and usu. about how they are used: *a Shakespeare concordance*

con·cor·dant /kənˈkɔːdənt‖-ɔːr-/ *adj* [(**with**)] *fml* being in agreement or of the same regular pattern

con·cor·dat /kɒnˈkɔːdæt‖kɑːnˈkɔːr-/ *n tech* an agreement between separate groups, esp. between the church and a state on religious matters

Concorde



Con·corde /ˈkɒŋkɔːd‖ˈkɑːŋkɔːrd/ a passenger aircraft with a long pointed front. It is the fastest of all passenger aircraft and flies at twice the speed of sound. Since 1976, both British Airways and Air France have offered passenger flights on Concorde, which are expensive but considered to be PRESTIGIOUS: *He likes to travel in style, so he's going on Concorde.*

con·course /ˈkɒŋkɔːs‖ˈkɑːŋkɔːrs/ *n* **1** a hall or open place where passages or roads meet and crowds of people can gather: *the airport concourse* **2** an act of coming or happening together: *a large concourse of people*

con·crete[1] /ˈkɒŋkriːt‖kɑːnˈkriːt/ *adj* **1** existing as something real or solid, rather than as an idea or something imagined in the mind: *A car is a concrete object, but speed is not.* | (fig.) *I need something a bit more concrete than an apology from you — how about some compensation?* | *The word "car" is a concrete noun.* —compare ABSTRACT[1] (1) **2** particular as opposed to general; clear; DEFINITE:

Have you got any concrete proposals as to what we should do? | There's no concrete evidence of their guilt. **3** made of concrete: *a concrete floor* —~**ly** *adv*

con·crete² /ˈkɒŋkriːt‖ˈkɑːŋ-/ *n* [U] a building material made by mixing sand, very small stones, cement, and water: *reinforced concrete*

concrete³ *v* [T] to cover (a path, wall, etc.) with concrete: *They'd had their garden concreted over.*

concrete jun·gle /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* an unpleasant city area full of big ugly buildings and with no open spaces

concrete mix·er /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a CEMENT MIXER

con·cu·bi·nage /kɒnˈkjuːbɪnɪdʒ‖kɑːn-/ *n* [U] *fml or tech* the practice of living together as husband and wife without being married

con·cu·bine /ˈkɒŋkjʊbaɪn‖ˈkɑːŋ-/ *n* a woman who lives with and has sex with, but is not married to, an Eastern ruler: *The king had four wives and twenty concubines.*

con·cu·pis·cence /kənˈkjuːpɪsəns‖kɑːn-/ *n* [U] *fml* sexual desire; LUST —**-cent** *adj*

con·cur /kənˈkɜːr/ *v* **-rr-** [I] *fml* **1** [(**with**)] to agree; have the same opinion: *The two judges concurred (with one another) on the ruling.* **2** to happen at the same time; COINCIDE: [+*to-v*] *Everything concurred to produce the desired effect.*

con·cur·rence /kənˈkʌrəns‖-ˈkɜːr-/ *n fml* **1** [U] an agreement of opinion **2** [C (**of**)] an example of actions, events, etc., happening at the same time: *an interesting concurrence of events*

con·cur·rent /kənˈkʌrənt‖-ˈkɜːr-/ *adj* [(**with**)] **1** existing or happening at the same time: *He is serving two concurrent prison sentences.* (=two sentences intended to run at the same time) **2** *fml* in agreement: *My opinions are concurrent with yours.* —~**ly** *adv* : *Three of his plays are running concurrently on Broadway.*

con·cuss /kənˈkʌs/ *v* [T *often pass.*] *esp. BrE* to cause concussion to: *The driver of the crashed car was badly concussed.*

con·cus·sion /kənˈkʌʃən/ *n* [U] damage to the brain (usu. not long-lasting) caused by a heavy blow, shock, or violent shaking: *The little boy fell out of a window and was taken to hospital suffering from concussion.*

con·demn /kənˈdem/ *v* [T] **1** [(**as**)] to express very strong disapproval of (someone or something): *Most people would condemn violence of any sort. | The law has been condemned by its opponents as an attack on personal liberty.* **2** [(**to**)] to state the punishment for (a guilty person), esp. a punishment of death or long imprisonment: *The prisoner was condemned to death. | the condemned man* [+*obj*+*to-v*] *The judge condemned her to spend six years in prison.* **3** [(**to**)] to force into an unhappy state or situation: *His bad leg condemned him to a wheelchair.| Her shyness condemned her to a life of loneliness.* **4** [(**as**)] to declare (something) officially unfit for use: *Although this house is condemned (as unfit), an old lady still lives here.* **5** to show the guilt of (a person): *His nervousness condemned him.*

con·dem·na·tion /ˌkɒndəmˈneɪʃən, -dem-‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* [C;U (**of**)] (an example of) the act of condemning: *Condemnations of the terrorist bombing came from all over the world. | The congressmen were unanimous in their condemnation.*

condemned cell /·ˌ· ˈ·, ·ˈ· ·/ *n BrE* a room where prisoners who are to be punished by death are kept —see also DEATH ROW

con·den·sa·tion /ˌkɒndenˈseɪʃən, -dən-‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* **1** [U (**of**)] *tech* the change from a gas to a liquid or, sometimes, to a solid: *the condensation of steam into water* **2** [U] small drops of liquid or solid formed in this way, esp. drops of water formed when steam becomes cool: *There was a lot of condensation on the windows.* **3** [C;U (**of**)] (an example or result of) the act of making something shorter

con·dense /kənˈdens/ *v* **1** [I;T] **a** (of a gas) to become liquid, or sometimes solid, esp. by becoming cooler **b** to cause (a gas) to do this **2** [T] to make (a liquid) thicker by removing some of the water: *condensed soup* **3** [T] to reduce (esp. something written) to a smaller or shortened form: *a condensed report*

condensed milk /·ˌ· ˈ·/ *BrE* ‖ **sweetened condensed milk** *AmE*— *n* [U] sweetened milk which is thickened by taking away some of the water, and is usu. sold in tins —compare EVAPORATED MILK

con·dens·er /kənˈdensəʳ/ *n* **1** an apparatus that makes a gas change into a liquid **2** a CAPACITOR (=a machine for storing electricity, esp. in a car engine)

con·de·scend /ˌkɒndɪˈsend‖ˌkɑːn-/ *v* [I] **1** [+*to-v*] *usu. humor or derog* to do something unsuited to one's high social or professional position: *The managing director condescended to have lunch with us in the canteen.* **2** [(**to**)] *derog* to behave as though one is better or more important than others: *Mrs Harris is always so condescending — who does she think she is!* —**-scension** /ˈsenʃən/ *n* [U]

con·dign /kənˈdaɪn/ *adj fml* (esp. of punishment) both severe and well deserved —~**ly** *adv*

con·di·ment /ˈkɒndɪmənt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n fml* a powder or liquid used for giving a special taste to food: *Salt, ketchup, and pepper are condiments.*

con·di·tion¹ /kənˈdɪʃən/ *n* **1** [C (**of**)] a state of being or existence: *The astronauts soon got used to the condition of weightlessness. | (old use) people of every condition* (=every position in society) **2** [U] a state of general health, fitness, or readiness for use: *His car has been well maintained and is in excellent condition. | Archaeologists have discovered some ancient jewellery in almost perfect condition. | a neglected house in poor condition | Her condition is improving.* (=She is getting well again.) | *Sit still! You're in no condition to do anything. | He's* **out of condition** *because he never takes any exercise.* **3** [C (**for, of**)] something that is stated as necessary in order for something else to happen or exist: *They set|laid down strict conditions for letting us use their information. | The allies insist on free elections as a condition of their continued support. | Under the conditions of the agreement, the job must be completed by the end of the month.* [+*that*] *She will join us on one condition: that we divide all the profits equally. | I'll come* **on condition (that)** (=only if) *John is invited too.* —see also CONDITIONAL **4** [C] an illness of the stated kind or body part: *He has a heart condition.* **5 on no condition** *BrE* never; in no situation: *This equipment should on no condition be used by untrained staff.* —see also CONDITIONS

condition² *v* [T] **1** to have a controlling or deciding effect on; DETERMINE: *What I can buy is conditioned by the amount I earn.* **2** [+*obj*+*to-v*] *tech or derog* to train to behave in a certain way in certain conditions: *Most people are conditioned to believe what they read in the papers.* —see also CONDITIONING **3** to put into good health or a good state for work or use: *Your dog looks very well conditioned. | a shampoo that conditions the hair* —see also AIR-CONDITIONING, CONDITIONER

con·di·tion·al¹ /kənˈdɪʃənəl/ *adj* [*no comp.*] **1** [(**on, upon**)] depending on a certain condition or conditions: *His agreement to buy our house was conditional on our leaving all the furniture in it. | a conditional acceptance* — opposite **unconditional** **2** (in grammar) expressing a condition or supposition: *A conditional clause often begins with the words "if" or "unless".* —~**ly** *adv*

conditional² *n* (in grammar) a conditional form, esp. a sentence or CLAUSE

conditional dis·charge /·ˌ··· ˈ··/ *n* a judgment made by a court which means that a person who has carried out a small crime is allowed to go without punishment as long as they obey certain conditions set by the court: *He was lucky to get a conditional discharge.* —compare SUSPENDED SENTENCE

conditioned re·flex /·ˌ·· ˈ··/ also **conditioned re·sponse** /·ˌ·· ·ˈ·/— *n tech* a REFLEX (=a movement which one has no power to prevent) that is developed as the result of repeated treatment or training: *a conditioned response to a stimulus*

con·di·tion·er /kənˈdɪʃənəʳ/ *n* [C;U] **1** a liquid put onto hair after washing to make it softer **2** also **fabric conditioner**— a liquid in which clothes, etc., are rinsed (RINSE) after being washed, to make them softer

con·di·tion·ing /kənˈdɪʃənɪŋ/ *n* [U] the process by which people or animals are trained to behave in a certain way in certain conditions —see also AIR-CONDITIONING

con·di·tions /kənˈdɪʃənz/ *n* [P] the situation at a particular place or surrounding facts and events; CIRCUMSTANCES:

The union has striven to improve our working conditions.| Under present conditions we cannot possibly increase our pay offer. | The fog and ice made driving conditions very bad. | What are housing conditions like in East London?| Conditions in the famine area have been described as "desperate".

▷ USAGE Compare **conditions** and **situation.** They can both mean "state of affairs; circumstances": *We are studying the economic* **conditions/situation** *in several developing countries.* **Conditions** here suggests matters which affect daily life such as food, work, and houses. **Situation** suggests more general matters such as government planning and FINANCE. **Conditions** often describes something that has stayed the same for some time, but **situation** may suggest a recent change: *weather conditions of the Arctic winter | the political situation in Eastern Europe*◁

con·do /ˈkɒndəʊ‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n AmE for* CONDOMINIUM

con·dole /kənˈdəʊl/ *v*

condole with sbdy. *phr v* [T **(on, over)**] to express condolences to

con·do·lence /kənˈdəʊləns/ *n* [C *often pl*; U **(on)**] (an expression of) sympathy for someone who has experienced great sorrow, misfortune, etc.: *Please accept my condolences on your mother's death. | a letter of condolence* – compare COMMISERATION

con·dom /ˈkɒndəm‖ˈkɑːn-, ˈkʌn-/ also **sheath, prophylactic** *esp. AmE*– *n* a covering, usu. of rubber, worn over the male sex organ during sex, used as a means of BIRTH CONTROL and protection against disease: *Oh no! The condom's split|burst.*

►CULTURAL NOTE Since the appearance of the disease AIDS people have been encouraged to use condoms as a means of practising SAFE SEX and protecting themselves against AIDS and other diseases. Condoms can be bought at a CHEMIST*'s* shop, or sometimes from a VENDING MACHINE, e.g. in the toilets in a bar or PUB. People often joke about men being embarrassed to ask for condoms in a shop, esp. if the assistant is a woman. There are various generally-known names for a condom which include a **French letter**, a **rubber**, (*BrE*) a **Durex**, and (*BrE old-fash*) a **Johnny**. The expression **a packet of three** is also sometimes used, meaning "a packet of condoms".◄

con·do·min·i·um /ˌkɒndəˈmɪniəm‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* **1** [C] *AmE* also **condo** (a flat in) a block of flats of which each one is owned by the people living in it –see picture at HOUSE **2** [C;U] rule of a country by two or more other states acting together; a country ruled in this way: *the English-French condominium of the New Hebrides*

con·done /kənˈdəʊn/ *v* [T] to forgive (wrong behaviour); regard (a wrong action) as harmless or acceptable: *I cannot condone the use of violence under any circumstances.*

con·dor /ˈkɒndɔːr‖ˈkɑːndər, -dɔːr/ *n* a very large American VULTURE (=a bird that feeds on dead bodies)

con·duce /kənˈdjuːs‖-ˈduːs/ *v*

conduce to/towards sthg. *phr v* [T] *fml* to help to produce; be conducive to

con·du·cive /kənˈdjuːsɪv‖-ˈduː-/ *adj* [F+**to**] *rather fml* likely to produce; helping (an esp. desirable result) to happen: *The atmosphere in the conference room was hardly conducive to frank and friendly discussions. | The friendly tone of the meeting seemed conducive to finding a solution to the problem.* –~**ness** *n* [U **(to)**]

con·duct[1] /kənˈdʌkt/ *v* **1** [T] to go with and guide or lead: *The guide conducted us round the castle. | We went on a* **conducted tour** *of the cathedral.* **2** [T] to carry out or direct: *The business is conducted from small offices in the City. | The company conducted a survey to find out local reaction to the leisure centre. | The government is to conduct an inquiry into the incident.* **3** [T+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] *fml* to behave (oneself): *I think he conducted himself admirably, considering the difficult circumstances.* **4** [I;T] to direct the playing of (musicians or a musical work) **5** [T] to act as the path for (electricity, heat, etc.): *Plastic and rubber won't conduct electricity, but copper will.* – see also CONDUCTOR

con·duct[2] /ˈkɒndʌkt, -dəkt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* [U] **1** *fml* behaviour: *The reporter was accused of unethical/unprofessional conduct. | a prize for good conduct* **2** [**(of)**] direction of the course of (a business, activity, etc.): *dissatisfaction with the conduct of the war|the negotiations*

con·duc·tion /kənˈdʌkʃən/ *n* [U] the passage of electricity along wires, water through pipes, etc.

con·duc·tive /kənˈdʌktɪv/ *adj tech* able to conduct electricity, heat, etc.: *Copper is a very conductive metal.* –**-tivity** /ˌkɒndʌkˈtɪvəti‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* [U] : *the high conductivity of copper*

conductive ed·u·ca·tion /ˈ·ˌ·· ··ˈ··/ *n* a system for teaching children with CEREBRAL PALSY to use their minds and bodies as much as they possibly can. It was developed in Hungary by Dr Andras Peto.

con·duc·tor /kənˈdʌktəʳ/ *n* **1** a person who directs the playing of a group of musicians, usu. by waving a BATON (1) **2** something that acts as a path for electricity, heat, etc.: *Wood is a poor conductor of heat.* –see also LIGHTNING CONDUCTOR **3** a person employed to collect payments from passengers on a public vehicle. Conductors on buses are now quite rare in Britain and the US; it is more usual to buy a ticket before travelling or to pay the DRIVER of the vehicle. **4** *esp. AmE* the guard on a train

conductor rail /ˈ·ˈ·· ·/ ‖ usu. **third rail, live rail** *AmE n tech* the RAIL[1](2) from which electricity is passed to an electric railway engine

con·duct·ress /kənˈdʌktrəs/ *n old-fash* a female CONDUCTOR (3)

con·duit /ˈkɒndɪt, ˈkɒndjuɪt‖ˈkɑːnduɪt/ *n* a pipe or passage for carrying water, gas, a set of electric wires, etc.: (fig.) *a foreign-registered company serving as a conduit for money flowing out of the country*

cone[1] /kəʊn/ *n* **1** a solid figure with a round base and a point at the top –see also CONIC, CONICAL **2** a hollow or solid object shaped like this: *The police put those cones in the road as warning signs.* **3** the fruit of a PINE or FIR tree –see also CONIFER and see picture at TREE **4** also **cornet** *BrE*– a thin pastry container for ICE CREAM, pointed at one end, to be eaten together with its contents

cone[2] *v*

cone sthg. ↔ **off** *phr v* [T] to close (a road or part of a road) to traffic by putting a row of CONES (2) across or along it

cone·head /ˈkəʊnhed/ *n AmE humor* an imaginary person from another world who has a head shaped like a cone but otherwise looks like a human. Coneheads know very little about human life and customs and are always surprised by them. Coneheads were created by performers on the American television programme *Saturday Night Live.*

Con·e·sto·ga wag·on /ˌkɒnɪˈstəʊgə‖ˌkɑːn-/ also **Conestoga** /ˌ··ˈ·· ˌ··/ ‖– *n* a COVERED WAGON

co·ney /ˈkəʊni/ *n* a rabbit; CONY

Coney Is·land /ˌ·· ˈ··/ an area of Brooklyn, New York, famous for its amusement park and BEACH

con·fab·u·late /kənˈfæbjʊleɪt/ *v* [I **(with)**] *pomp* to talk together

con·fab·u·la·tion /kənˌfæbjʊˈleɪʃən/ also **con·fab** /ˈkɒnfæb ‖ ˈkɑːn-/*infml*– *n pomp* a private conversation: *Let's have a short confab about it before we decide.*

con·fec·tion /kənˈfekʃən/ *n fml* a sweet-tasting dish

con·fec·tion·er /kənˈfekʃənəʳ/ *n* a person who makes or sells sweets, ice cream, cakes, etc.

confectioner's sug·ar /·ˈ··· ˌ··/ *n* [U] *AmE for* ICING SUGAR

con·fec·tion·e·ry /kənˈfekʃənəri/ *n* **1** [U] sweets, ice cream, cakes, etc. **2** [C] a confectioner's shop

con·fed·e·ra·cy /kənˈfedərəsi/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] a union of people, parties, or states, esp. for political purposes or trade

Confederacy also **Confederate States** /·ˌ··· ˈ·/– [*the*] the southern states that fought and lost against the northern states (the UNION) in the American Civil War, under the leadership of Jefferson Davis and General Robert E. Lee –see also CIVIL WAR (2)

con·fed·e·rate[1] /kənˈfedərɪt/ *adj* (*sometimes cap.*) belonging to a confederacy or to the Confederacy: *the Confederate Army|States*

confederate[2] *n* **1** *derog* a person who shares in a crime; ACCOMPLICE **2** a member of a confederacy **3** (*often cap.*)

AmE derog a person who (today) shares the political views and aims of the Confederacy

confederate[3] /kənˈfedəreɪt/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) combine in a confederacy

Confederate flag /kənˌfedərəlt ˈflæg/ [*the*] the flag of the Confederacy. Today it is still used, esp. by some American southerners, to show support for the Confederacy and is generally thought to stand for RACISM against blacks, and WHITE SUPREMACY

con·fed·e·ra·tion /kənˌfedəˈreɪʃən/ *n* a confederacy

Confederation of Brit·ish In·dus·try /···ˌ·· · ˌ·· ˈ···/ [*the*] *fml for* the CBI

con·fer /kənˈfɜːr/ *v* **-rr-** *fml* **1** [I (**with**)] to talk together; compare opinions: *The minister is still conferring with his advisers.* **2** [T (**on, upon**)] to give (a title, honour, favour, etc.): *An honorary degree was conferred on him by the university.* —~**ment** *n* [C;U]

con·fe·rence /ˈkɒnfərəns‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* [(**on**)] **1** a formal meeting, e.g. between people who share the same business interests or belong to the same political party, which is held so that opinions and ideas can be exchanged: *My boss attended a conference on plastics last weekend.* | *The Historical Association/Labour Party are holding their annual conference next week.* | *The manager cannot see you now; she is* **in conference.** (=having a business meeting) —see also PRESS CONFERENCE **2** *esp. AmE* in a group of teams which play against each other; LEAGUE: *College football has two main conferences, the* PAC TEN and the Big Ten.

conference cen·tre /ˈ··· ˌ··/ *n* a building with office equipment which can be hired by companies as a place for holding meetings, EXHIBITIONS, and other business events

conference ta·ble /ˈ··· ˌ··/ *n* a large table in an office where meetings are held

con·fess /kənˈfes/ *v* **1** [I;T (**to**)] to admit (a fault, crime, or something wrong that one has done): *The prisoner has confessed (her crime/to the murder).* [+*v-ing*] *He confessed (to) leaving the cigarette on the chair.* [+(*that*)] *Jean confessed (that) she'd eaten all the cakes.* | *I* **have to/must confess** *I didn't believe him at first.* [+*obj*+*adj*] (*fml*) *The police have confessed themselves (to be) completely puzzled by this strange crime.* **2** [I;T (**to**)] *tech* to tell (one's faults) to a priest or to God: *to confess one's sins*

►CULTURAL NOTE Many Christian people, esp. Roman Catholics, believe that their faults will be forgiven if they confess them and do PENANCE for them —see also CONFESSION (2)◄

3 [T] *tech* (of a priest) to hear the CONFESSION (2) of (a person)

con·fessed /kənˈfest/ *adj* [A] not secret; having admitted it: *Mrs Jones is a (self-)confessed alcoholic.* | *a confessed criminal* —~**ly** /ˈfesədli/ *adv*

con·fes·sion /kənˈfeʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U] (an example of) the act of admitting one's crimes, faults, etc.: *I've got a confession to make – I scraped your car when I was parking mine.* | *He wrote and signed a full confession of his guilt.* | *To reintroduce the tax would be a confession of failure by the government.* | (*humor*) *"I haven't brushed my teeth today." "What a confession!"* **2** [C;U] (an example of) the act of telling one's faults to a priest privately, e.g. in the confessional

►CULTURAL NOTE A Roman Catholic is meant to do this at least once a year. The Catholic priest can give the person a PENANCE, e.g. to say a particular prayer a certain number of times, and ABSOLUTION (= forgiveness for their SINS). The priest must never tell anyone anything that the person tells him as part of their confession, even if the person has hurt or killed someone.◄

3 [U] a religious service at which people admit their faults to God **4** [C (**of**)] *fml* (esp. in religion) a declaration of belief: *a confession of faith* **5** [C+*sing./pl. v*] *tech* a religious group (usu. Christian) with its own organization and a shared system of belief

con·fes·sion·al /kənˈfeʃənəl/ *n* a place in a church (usu. an enclosed place) where the priest hears people make their CONFESSION (2): *the secrets of the confessional*

con·fes·sor /kənˈfesəʳ/ *n tech* the priest to whom someone regularly makes their CONFESSION (2)

con·fet·ti /kənˈfeti/ *n* [U] small pieces of coloured paper thrown over the BRIDE and BRIDEGROOM after a wedding, esp. as they come out of a church or thrown at other occasions where people celebrate: *Their friends showered them with confetti.*

con·fi·dant /ˈkɒnfədænt, ˌkɒnfəˈdænt, -ˈdɑːnt‖ˈkɑːnfədænt/ **confidante** (*same pronunciation*) *fem.*— *n* a person to whom one tells one's secrets or with whom one talks about personal matters

con·fide /kənˈfaɪd/ *v* [T (**to**)] to tell (information, personal matters, etc.) secretly to a person one trusts: *"I don't really like my brother," she confided.* [+*that*] *He confided (to me) that he had spent five years in prison.*

confide in sbdy. *phr v* [T] to talk freely to (someone), esp. about personal matters, and be confident that one's secrets will be kept: *Alan felt he could confide in his brother.*

con·fi·dence /ˈkɒnfədəns‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* **1** [U (**in**)] a calm unworried feeling or manner based on a strong belief in one's abilities; SELF-ASSURANCE: *She's a good student but she lacks confidence (in herself).* | *The company is looking forward with confidence to the next five years.* **2** [U (**in**)] a strong belief in the ability of a person, plan, etc., to do what is needed effectively and successfully: *We have every confidence in your ability.* | *The government failed to win public confidence in its plan for economic recovery.* | *After another poor performance, the company's management has now lost the confidence of its shareholders.* | *The opposition parties have* **tabled a motion of no confidence** *BrE* ‖ **taken a vote of no confidence** *AmE in the government.* (=stated that they do not trust the government's ability to do its job) —see also VOTE OF CONFIDENCE **3** [U] faith; complete trust: *Little Johnny used to be very shy and withdrawn with adults, but I have won his confidence now.* | *I'm telling you this* **in confidence.** (=as a secret) | *She* **took him into her confidence** *and told him the whole truth.* **4** [C] a secret; a personal matter told secretly to someone else: *The girls exchanged confidences about their boyfriends.*

confidence-build·ing /ˈ··· ˌ··/ *adj* (of an action, speech, etc.) that increases confidence: *This introduction course will be of value to anyone without prior experience of computing, serving as a confidence-building preparation prior to further training.*

confidence man /ˈ··· ˌ·/ *n* a CONMAN

confidence trick /ˈ··· ˌ·/ also **con** *infml*— *n* a dishonest trick played on a trusting person in order to get their money

con·fi·dent /ˈkɒnfədənt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *adj* [(**of**)] feeling or showing confidence: *a confident smile* | *a confident prediction that business would improve* | *We are confident of success.* [F+(*that*)] *We are confident that next year's profits will be much higher.* —see also SELF-CONFIDENT —~**ly** *adv*

con·fi·den·tial /ˌkɒnfəˈdenʃəl◂ ‖ ˌkɑːn-/ *adj* **1** spoken or written in secret and intended to be kept secret: *This information is strictly confidential.* | *a confidential naval report on the failure of equipment* | *Please keep what I am about to tell you confidential.* **2** trusted with private matters: *a confidential secretary* **3** showing full trust: *a confidential voice/look* —~**ly** *adv*: *She leaned over to me confidentially.* | *Confidentially, between you and me, I think he's going to resign.* —~**ity** /ˌkɒnfədenʃiˈælətiǁˌkɑːn-/ *n* [U] : *to respect someone's confidentiality*

con·fid·ing /kənˈfaɪdɪŋ/ *adj fml* trustful: *her confiding nature* —~**ly** *adv*

con·fig·u·ra·tion /kənˌfɪgjʊˈreɪʃən/ *n* **1** *fml or tech* the arrangement of the parts of something; shape or LAYOUT: *the configuration of pistons in an engine* **2** *tech* the combination of HARDWARE equipment needed to run a computer system

con·fine /kənˈfaɪn/ *v* [T (**to**)] **1** to keep within limits; RESTRICT: *Please confine yourself/your remarks to the subject under discussion.* | *The police cadet's duties were confined to taking statements from women and children.* **2** to shut or keep in a small or enclosed space: *Any soldier who deserts his post will be confined to quarters.* **3** [*usu. pass.*] *med* to put (a woman who is about to give birth to a baby) in bed

con·fine·ment /kənˈfaɪnmənt/ *n* **1** [U (**to**)] the act of confining or state of being confined —see also SOLITARY CONFINEMENT **2** [C;U] *tech* an act of giving birth to a child: *This is her third confinement.*

con·fines /ˈkɒnfaɪnz‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* [P (**of**)] limits or borders: *within the confines of one country* | *beyond the confines of human knowledge*

con·firm /kənˈfɜːm‖-ɜːrm/ *v* [T] **1** to give support or certainty to (a fact, belief, statement, etc.), e.g. by providing more proof or by stating that something is true or correct: *He said he would accept the job, so we have asked him to confirm his acceptance in writing.* | *The expression on her face confirmed our worst fears.* | *This new evidence confirms (me in) my opinion that they are lying.* | *The President refused to either confirm or deny this rumour.* [+*that*] *The announcement confirmed that the election would take place on June 20th.* [+*wh-*] *a note asking us to confirm when we would be arriving* **2** to give formal approval to (a person, agreement, position, etc.); agree to; RATIFY: *When do you think the President will confirm you in office?* **3** *tech* to admit (a person) to full membership of the Christian church: *I was confirmed when I was 12.*

con·fir·ma·tion /ˌkɒnfəˈmeɪʃən‖ˌkɑːnfər-/ *n* [C;U] **1** [(**of**)] something that confirms: *a letter in confirmation of a hotel reservation* | *confirmation of my suspicions* | *There has still been no official confirmation of the report.* **2** *tech* a religious service in which a person is made a full member of the Christian church

confirmation hear·ing /··ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a special meeting of US SENATORS that examines someone appointed to high office by the president, and decides if they are suitable for the job

con·firmed /kənˈfɜːmd‖-ɜːr-/ *adj* [A] firmly settled in a particular way of life or way of thinking: *a confirmed bachelor*

con·fis·cate /ˈkɒnfɪskeɪt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *v* [T (**from**)] to take (private property) away from someone esp. with the official right to do so, usu. as a punishment: *The teacher confiscated my radio because I was playing it in the classroom.* —**-cation** /ˌkɒnfɪˈskeɪʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* [C;U] : *the confiscation of pornographic material by the police*

con·fis·ca·to·ry /ˈkɒnfɪskeɪtəri, kənˈfɪskətəri‖kənˈfɪskətɔːri/ *adj fml* **1** that confiscates: *the confiscatory powers of customs officials* **2** taking away too much: *confiscatory taxes*

con·fla·gra·tion /ˌkɒnfləˈgreɪʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n fml* a very large fire that destroys much property, esp. buildings or forests

con·flate /kənˈfleɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to bring (parts) together to form a single whole; combine —**-flation** /ˈfleɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

con·flict[1] /ˈkɒnflɪkt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* [C;U (**between**)] **1** a state of disagreement or argument between opposing groups or opposing ideas or principles; opposition: *The two parties have been* **in conflict** *since the election.* | *The governor's refusal to apply the law brought him into conflict with the federal government.* | *the conflict between religion and science* **2** (a) war or battle; struggle: *This is a serious dispute, and could lead to* **armed conflict**. **3 never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few** *quote* part of a speech made to the British Parliament in 1940 by Winston Churchill about the Battle of Britain and the bravery of the Royal Air Force —see also BATTLE OF BRITAIN

con·flict[2] /kənˈflɪkt/ *v* [I (**with**)] to be in opposition; disagree: *Do British immigration laws conflict with any international laws?* | *conflicting opinions|advice|evidence*

conflict of in·terest /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ *n* **conflicts of interest** [(**between**)] a conflict between two of someone's different areas of activity, so that it becomes difficult to continue being involved in both of them. It is usu. experienced by someone who holds a responsible or public position: *There is a growing conflict of interest between her position as a politician and her business activities.*

con·flu·ence /ˈkɒnfluəns‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* [(**of**)] *fml* the place where two or more rivers flow together: *the confluence of the Rhine and the Mosel* | (fig.) *a confluence of ideas*

con·form /kənˈfɔːm‖-ɔːrm/ *v* [I (**to**)] **1** to obey or be in accordance with established rules: *You must either conform to the rules or leave the school.* | *This piece of equipment does not conform to the official safety standards.* **2** to behave in accordance with generally accepted ideas or customs; behave like most other people: *There is great pressure on schoolchildren to conform.* —see also CONFORMIST —**~er** *n* —**~ance** *n* [U (**with, to**)] : *The equipment is not in conformance with the official safety standards.*

con·for·ma·ble /kənˈfɔːməbəl‖-ɔːr-/ *adj* [F+**to**] *fml* acting in agreement; suitable: *We trust that the arrangements we have made are conformable to your wishes.* —**-bly** *adv*

con·for·ma·tion /ˌkɒnfɔːˈmeɪʃən‖ˌkɑːnfɔːr-/ *n* [C;U] *fml or tech* the way something is formed; shape

con·form·ist /kənˈfɔːmɪst‖-ɔːr-/ *adj, n usu. derog* (of) a person who conforms to the established rules, values, and customs of society —opposite **nonconformist**

con·for·mi·ty /kənˈfɔːmɪti‖-ɔːr-/ *n* [U (**with, to**)] *fml* agreement with established rules, customs, etc.: *to behave* **in conformity with** *the law|your beliefs*

con·found /kənˈfaʊnd/ *v* [T] **1** to confuse and surprise by being unexpected: *The extraordinary election results confounded the government.* | *He gave a marvellous performance that completely confounded his critics.* **2** *old use* to defeat (an enemy, plan, etc.) **3** [(**with**)] *fml* to mix up in one's mind; CONFUSE (2) **4 Confound it/him/them, etc.** *old-fash infml* DAMN it/him/them, etc.

con·found·ed /kənˈfaʊndɪd/ *adj* [A] *old-fash infml* (used to express annoyance): *that confounded boy|dog* | *a confounded idiot|nuisance* —**~ly** *adv*

con·fra·ter·ni·ty /ˌkɒnfrəˈtɜːnɪti‖ˌkɑːnfrəˈtɜːr-/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] a group of people, esp. of religious people who are not priests, who work together for some good purpose

con·frère /ˈkɒnfreəʳ‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n Fr pomp* a companion, esp. a person who shares in one's job

con·front /kənˈfrʌnt/ *v* [T] **1** to face bravely or threateningly: *The actress was confronted by a large group of reporters as she left the stage door.* | *They have confronted the problem of terrorism with great determination.* **2** to be faced with and have to deal with: *I prepared answers for the questions I expected to confront in the interview.*

confront sbdy. **with** sthg. *phr v* [T] to force to deal with or accept the truth of; bring face to face with: *When the police confronted her with the evidence, she admitted that she was guilty.*

con·fron·ta·tion /ˌkɒnfrənˈteɪʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* [C;U (**with**)] (an example of) the act of confronting, esp. a situation or manner marked by open opposition: *We cannot risk (another) confrontation with the union.*

con·fron·ta·tion·al /ˌkɒnfrənˈteɪʃənəl‖ˌkɑːn-/ *adj* intentionally causing or likely to cause confrontation; PROVOCATIVE: *a confrontational policy* | *a confrontational style of government*

Con·fu·cian·is·m /kənˈfjuːʃənɪzəm/ *n* [U] a Chinese way of thought which teaches that one should be loyal to one's family, friends, and rulers and treat others as one would like to be treated. Confucianism was developed from the ideas of Confucius. —**Confucian** *adj*

Con·fu·cius /kənˈfjuːəs/ (about 551 to 479 BC) a Chinese PHILOSOPHER who encouraged justice and peace and who taught social and moral principles which became a part of Chinese civilization. In Britain and the US, people sometimes pretend to give a QUOTE from Confucius as a joke, when they are pretending to give someone wise advice, usu. starting "Confucius he say..." or "Confucius says..."

con·fuse /kənˈfjuːz/ *v* [T] **1** to cause to be mixed up in the mind; BEWILDER: *Don't give me so much information — you're confusing me.* | *Waking up in strange surroundings confused her.* | (fig.) *The chess player confused the computer by making some irrational moves halfway through the game.* **2** [(**with**)] to mix up in one's mind; be unable to tell the difference between (esp. similar people or things): *I'm always confusing John and|with Paul — which one is John?* **3** to put into disorder; make less clear, more difficult to deal with: *That argument's completely irrelevant — you're confusing the issue.*

con·fused /kənˈfjuːzd/ *adj* **1** mixed up in one's mind: *The little girl was very confused by all the noise and activity.* | *He* **gets confused** *easily.* **2** in disorder; not able to be separated easily: *a confused babble of voices* —**~ly** /-ˈfjuːzɪdli/ *adv*

con·fus·ing /kənˈfjuːzɪŋ/ *adj* making one feel confused: *The instructions were so confusing I couldn't understand them.* | *a confusing array of instruments* —**~ly** *adv*

con·fu·sion /kənˈfjuːʒən/ *n* [U] **1** the state of being mixed up or mistaken: *There was some confusion as to whether we had won or lost.* | *To avoid confusion, the teams wore different colours.* | *Conflicting reports have led to widespread public confusion over the government's*

intentions. **2** the act of confusing; mixing up: *Confusion of|between the crow and the rook is quite common.* (i.e. because they are so similar) **3** a state of great disorder: *The party is in complete confusion after its election defeat.* | *a scene of panic and confusion*

con·fute /kən'fju:t/ *v* [T] *fml* to prove (a person or argument) to be completely wrong —**-futation** /ˌkɒnfju:'teɪʃən‖ ˌkɑ:n-/ *n* [C;U]

con·ga /'kɒŋgə‖'kɑ:ŋgə/ *n* (the music for) a fast Latin American dance, in which the dancers form a long winding chain (a **conga line**). People sometimes **do the conga** at informal parties, esp. when they have drunk a lot of alcohol.

con·gé /'kɒnʒeɪ‖kɔ:n'ʒeɪ, 'kɑ:nʒeɪ/ *n Fr pomp* **1** formal and respectful DEPARTURE **2 give someone their congé** *fml* to dismiss someone suddenly from one's presence or favour

con·geal /kən'dʒi:l/ *v* [I;T] to become thick or solid: *The soup had congealed by the time we returned.* | *congealed blood*

con·ge·ni·al /kən'dʒi:niəl/ *adj* pleasant; in agreement with one's tastes and nature: *congenial work|weather|companions* | *I find him very congenial.* —~**ly** *adv*

con·gen·i·tal /kən'dʒenɪtl/ *adj med* (of diseases) existing at or from one's birth: *a congenital defect* | (fig.) *a congenital liar* (=person who always lies) —~**ly** *adv* : *congenitally deaf*

con·ger eel /ˌkɒŋgər 'i:l‖ˌkɑ:ŋ-/ also **conger**— *n* a large rather fierce snakelike sea fish

con·ges·ted /kən'dʒestɪd/ *adj* **1** (of a street, city, narrow place, etc.) very full or blocked, esp. because of traffic: *Oxford Street is always very congested.* **2** *med* (of a blood tube or part of the body) very full of liquid: *His lungs seem to be congested, doctor.* —**-tion** /'dʒestʃən/ *n* [U] : *traffic congestion* | *congestion of the lungs*

con·glom·e·rate /kən'glɒmərɪt‖-'glɑ:-/ *n* **1** a large business organization consisting of different companies that produce goods of very different kinds: *a multinational conglomerate* **2** *esp. tech* a mass of various materials gathered together, esp. a rock consisting of small stones held together by clay

con·glom·e·ra·tion /kənˌglɒmə'reɪʃən‖-ˌglɑ:-/ *n* [(**of**)] *fml* a collection or mass of many different things gathered together: *It's not really a theory, just a confused conglomeration of ideas.*

Con·go /'kɒŋgəʊ‖'kɑ:ŋ-/ [*the*] **1** also **People's Republic of Congo** *fml* —a country in W Central Africa; capital Brazzaville; population 1,941,000 (1989) **2** the name informally used for a central African country called at different times **Congo Free State**, the **Belgian Congo**, and the **Democratic Republic of Congo**. Since 1971 it has been known as Zaïre; capital Kinshasa; population 34,491,000 (1989) **3** the former name of the second longest African river, in 1971 renamed the Zaïre —~**lese** /ˌkɒŋgə'li:z◂ ‖ ˌkɑ:ŋ-/ *adj*

con·grats /kən'græts/ *interj infml* congratulations

con·grat·u·late /kən'grætʃʊleɪt/ *v* [T (**on**)] **1** to express one's pleasure, praise, or admiration for (someone) because of a happy event or something successfully done: *We congratulated her on the birth of her daughter|on having come first in her exams.* **2** to have pleasure and pride in (oneself) for something successfully done: *She congratulated herself on having thought of such a good idea.* —**-lation** /kənˌgrætʃʊ'leɪʃən/ *n* [U]

con·grat·u·la·tions /kənˌgrætʃʊ'leɪʃənz/ *interj, n* [P (**on**)] an expression used when one is congratulating someone on their success, luck, etc. People usu. offer someone their congratulations, or say the word "Congratulations", when someone has won a prize, passed a test, got married, had a baby, etc., or when someone has just announced that they are going to get married or have a baby: *"I've just passed my driving test!" "Congratulations!"* | *Congratulations on winning the race|on your marriage!* | *Please give her|pass on my congratulations when you see her.* | *There you are, Kevin! I hear congratulations are in order. Well done!*

con·grat·u·la·to·ry /kənˌgrætʃʊ'leɪtəri‖-'grætʃʊlətɔ:ri/ *adj* that congratulates: *a congratulatory letter|telegram* | *congratulatory remarks*

con·gre·gate /'kɒŋgrɪgeɪt‖'kɑ:ŋ-/ *v* [I] to come together in a large group: *The crowds congregated in the town square to hear the President speak.*

con·gre·ga·tion /ˌkɒŋgrɪ'geɪʃən‖ˌkɑ:ŋ-/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] a group of people gathered together, esp. in a church, for religious worship: *The congregation knelt to pray.* | *a member of the congregation* —see ATTEND (USAGE)

Con·gre·ga·tion·al /ˌkɒŋgrɪ'geɪʃənəl◂‖ˌkɑ:ŋ-/ *adj* of Congregationalism: *the Congregational church*

Con·gre·ga·tion·al·is·m /ˌkɒŋgrɪ'geɪʃənəlɪzəm‖ˌkɑ:ŋ-/ *n* [U] a Protestant branch of the Christian church in which each local church governs its own affairs —**-ist** *n*

con·gress /'kɒŋgres‖'kɑ:ŋgrɪs/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] **1** a formal meeting of representatives of societies, countries, etc., to exchange information and opinions: *the Congress of Vienna* | *a medical congress* | *The matter will be discussed in congress tomorrow.* **2** the elected law-making body of certain countries

Congress the law-making body of the US, consisting of the Senate and the House of Representatives: *She has been elected|has been returned to Congress.* | *Congress has approved the new education budget.* | *The President has lost the support of Congress.* —see also extra information on page 568

▶CULTURAL NOTE Congress decides whether a BILL (= a suggested law) becomes a law. If the Senate and the House of Representatives both agree to a bill, the President is asked to agree. The President can say no to (VETO) the bill, but Congress can still make it a law if two-thirds of the members of each house agree. —compare HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, SENATE; see also CONGRESSMAN, CONTINENTAL CONGRESS◀

con·gres·sion·al /kən'greʃənəl/ *adj* [A] (*often cap.*) of a congress, esp. the US Congress: *congressional hearings|elections* | *a congressional committee*

Congressional Med·al of Hon·or /·ˌ··· ˌ·· · '··/ also **Medal of Honor** *infml*— [*the*] the highest military honour in the US, which is given to soldiers who show special courage

Congressional Rec·ord /·ˌ··· '··/ [*the*] the printed record of all the official business of the US Congress, which records everything that is said and the results of votes —compare HANSARD

con·gress·man /'kɒŋgrɪsmən‖'kɑ:ŋ-/ **con·gress·wo·man** /-ˌwʊmən/*fem.*— *n* **-men** /mən/ (*often cap.*) a member of a congress, esp. of the US House of Representatives: *on the advice of my Congressman* | *an interview with Congresswoman Anne Harding* —see also extra information on page 568

Congress of Vi·en·na /ˌ·· · ·'··/ [*the*] a meeting of representatives from various European countries in 1814 and 1815 to plan the reorganization of Europe after the defeat of Napoleon I

Congress Par·ty /'·· ˌ··/, **the** an important political party in India

con·gru·ent /'kɒŋgruənt‖'kɑ:ŋ-/ *adj* **1** [(**with**)] *tech* (of figures in GEOMETRY) having the same size and shape as another or each other: *congruent triangles* **2** [(**with**)] *fml* CONGRUOUS —~**ly** *adv* —**-ence** *n* [U]

con·gru·i·ty /kən'gru:ɪti/ *n* [(**between**)] *fml* **1** [U] the state of being alike **2** [C *usu. pl.*] a point of agreement

con·gru·ous /'kɒŋgruəs‖'kɑ:ŋ-/ also **congruent** /-ənt/— *adj* [(**with**)] *fml* fitting; suitable: *behaviour congruous with his rank* —opposite INCONGRUOUS

con·ic /'kɒnɪk‖'kɑ:-/ *adj tech* of or shaped like a CONE (1)

con·i·cal /'kɒnɪkəl‖'kɑ:-/ *adj* of or shaped like a CONE (1): *huts with conical roofs* —~**ly** /kli/ *adv*

conic sec·tion /ˌ·· '··/ *n* a shape made from a CONE by passing an imaginary flat surface through it. This is an important idea in GEOMETRY.

co·ni·fer /'kəʊnɪfəʳ, 'kɒ-‖'kɑ:-/ *n* a tree on which CONES (3) grow and which is usu. EVERGREEN (=does not lose its leaves in winter). Many conifers have economic value because they are used for TIMBER.

co·nif·er·ous /kə'nɪfərəs‖kəʊ-, kə-/ *adj* of or being a conifer: *coniferous trees* —compare DECIDUOUS (1); see also EVERGREEN

conj *written abbrev. for:* CONJUNCTION

con·jec·ture[1] /kən'dʒektʃəʳ/ *n* [C;U] *fml* (the forming of) a guess, opinion, or judgment based on incomplete or

uncertain information: *The Senator didn't know the facts; what he said was pure conjecture.* | *Whether or not the President knew will always be a matter for conjecture.* (=we will never know) —**-tural** *adj*

conjecture² *v* [I;T+*that*;~~*obj*~~] *fml* to form a conjecture; guess: *The general conjectured that the enemy only had about five days' supply of food left.*

con·join /kənˈdʒɔɪn/ *v* [I;T] *fml or tech* to (cause to) join together or unite for a common purpose

con·joint /kənˈdʒɔɪnt/ *adj fml* joined together; united; combined —**~ly** *adv*

con·ju·gal /ˈkɒndʒʊgəl‖ˈkɑːn-/ *adj* [A] *fml* of marriage; CONNUBIAL: *the conjugal bed*

conjugal rights /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* [P] the right of having SEXUAL INTERCOURSE with one's husband or wife: *He demanded his conjugal rights.*

►CULTURAL NOTE In Britain, a man formerly had the legal right to have sex with his wife, and he could not be found guilty of raping (RAPE) his wife. This law was changed in 1991.◄

con·ju·gate /ˈkɒndʒʊgeɪt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *v tech* **1** [I] (of a verb) to have different grammatical forms to show number, person, tense, etc.: *The verb "to go" conjugates irregularly.* **2** [T] to list or state the different grammatical forms of (a verb) that show number, person, tense, etc.: *Can you conjugate "to have" in the present tense?* —compare DECLINE¹ (4), INFLECT (1)

con·ju·ga·tion /ˌkɒndʒʊˈgeɪʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n tech* **1** [C] (in some languages) a class of verbs that conjugate in the same way: *There are four conjugations in Latin but also many irregular verbs.* **2** the way that a particular verb conjugates: *The verb "to be" has an irregular conjugation.* —compare DECLENSION

con·junc·tion /kənˈdʒʌŋkʃən/ *n* **1** [C] a word such as "but", "and", or "while" that connects parts of sentences, phrases, or CLAUSES **2** [C;U] *fml* (a) combination of qualities, groups, or events: *The army is acting* **in conjunction with** (=in combination with) *the police in the hunt for the terrorists.* **3** [U] *tech* the meeting or passing of two stars, PLANETS, etc. in the same division of the ZODIAC: *This month Mars and Venus are* **in conjunction.**

con·junc·tive /kənˈdʒʌŋktɪv/ also **con·junct** /ˈkɒndʒʌŋkt, kənˈdʌŋkt‖ˈkɑːn-/— *n, adj tech* (a word) joining phrases together: *a conjunctive adverb*

con·junc·ti·vi·tis /kənˌdʒʌŋktɪˈvaɪtɪs/ ‖ also **pinkeye** *AmE* — *n* [U] *med* a painful disease of the eye, with redness and swelling. It is very infectious.

con·junc·ture /kənˈdʒʌŋktʃəʳ/ *n* [(**of**)] *fml* a combination of events or situations, usu. producing difficulties

con·jure¹ /ˈkʌndʒəʳ‖ˈkɑːn-, ˈkʌn-/ *v* **1** [T+*obj*+*prep*] to cause to appear (as if) by magic: *The magician conjured a rabbit out of his hat.* **2** [I] to do clever tricks which seem magical, esp. by very quick movement of the hands: *Paul's very good at conjuring.* **3 a name to conjure with** *BrE* the name of **a** a very influential or important person or thing **b** a very difficult or strange-sounding, and usu. long, name

conjure sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] **1** to bring into the mind or cause to be remembered; EVOKE: *This place conjures up vivid memories.* **2** to cause to appear (as if) by magic: *Jean can conjure up a good meal in half an hour.*

con·jure² /kənˈdʒʊəʳ/ *v* [T+*obj*+*to-v*] *old use* to ask (someone) solemnly to do something: *He conjured them with his dying breath to look after his children.*

con·jur·er, -or /ˈkʌndʒərəʳ‖ˈkɑːn-, ˈkʌn-/ *esp. BrE* ‖ *usu.*

conjurer





magician *AmE n* a person, esp. a professional entertainer, who does CONJURING TRICKS to amuse others, esp. producing objects or small animals, esp. rabbits, from a TOP HAT or other places. They sometimes use a MAGIC WAND. In Britain, conjurers are often hired to entertain children at birthday parties.

conjuring trick /ˈ··· ˌ·/ *n* a clever trick which seems magical, esp. one that involves very quick movement of the hands

conk¹ /kɒŋk‖kɑːŋk, kɔːŋk/ *n BrE sl, usu. humor* a nose

conk² *v* [T] *sl* to hit (someone), esp. on the head with a heavy blow

conk out *phr v sl* **1** [I] to fail suddenly; break down: *Our car conked out on the way home.* **2** [I] *AmE* to (go to) sleep, often suddenly or when very tired: *I conked out for three hours when I got home from work* **3** [T(**conk** sbdy. ↔ out)] *AmE* to knock unconscious; KNOCK OUT

con·ker /ˈkɒŋkəʳ‖ˈkɑːŋ-/ *n esp. BrE* the shiny brown nut-like seed of the HORSE CHESTNUT tree —see also CONKERS; —see picture at TREE

con·kers /ˈkɒŋkəz‖ˈkɑːŋkərz/ *n* [U] (esp. in Britain) a children's game in which one person swings a conker on a piece of string in an attempt to break an opponent's conker. The conkers are given numbers depending on how many other conkers they have defeated. Children sometimes bake their conkers in the OVEN or soak them in VINEGAR to make them harder.

con·man /ˈkɒnmæn‖ˈkɑːn-/ also **confidence man**— *n* **-men** /men/ a person who performs CONFIDENCE TRICKS to get money from people in a dishonest way

con·nect /kəˈnekt/ *v* **1** [T (UP)] to join (one object, place, etc.) to another by means of something that comes in between the two; unite: *This railway line connects London and Edinburgh.* | *The plumber connected (up) all the pipes and turned on the tap.* **2** [T (**with**) *often pass.*] to consider as being related; ASSOCIATE: *The woman's face was familiar, but I didn't immediately connect her with the girl who used to live next door to me.* | *The police are connecting this incident with last week's terrorist bombing.* (=they believe there is a connection between the two events) **3** [T (**to**)] to join by telephone: *Operator, you've connected me to the wrong person again!* **4** [T (UP, **to**)] to join (a machine) to an electricity or other power supply: *Make sure it's connected (up) properly before you switch on at the mains.* | *Has the phone|electricity been connected yet?* | *These terminals are connected to our mainframe computer.* **5** [I (**with, to**)] (of trains, buses, etc.) to be planned so that passengers can change from one to the other: *This flight connects with a flight for Paris.* | *connecting flights*

con·nect·ed /kəˈnektɪd/ *adj* **1** [(**with**)] joined or related: *a series of connected events* | *problems connected with alcoholism* —opposite **unconnected** **2** having social, professional, or business relationships of the stated kind: *He's* **well connected** (=knows powerful or influential people) *in political circles.* **3** joined electrically or telephonically: *a connected terminal* | *Are the telephones connected?* —opposite **disconnected** **4** [(**with**)] related by birth or marriage: *Most European royal families are connected (with each other).*

Con·nec·ti·cut /kəˈnetɪkət/ *written abbrev.* **CT**— a state in the NE United States. It was one of the 13 original colonies (COLONY) of Britain.–see colour maps on page 1374-5

connecting rod /·ˈ·· ·/ *n* a rod that joins two moving parts, esp. one connecting the PISTON to the CRANKSHAFT in the engine of a motor vehicle

con·nec·tion /kəˈnekʃən/ also **connexion** *BrE*— *n* **1** [C;U (**between, with**)] (an example of) the state of being connected; relationship: *There's a strong connection between smoking and heart disease.* | *Is there any connection between these two crimes?* | *The company has connections with a number of American firms.* | *His career was ruined because of his connections with the Mafia|his Mafia connections.* **2** [C] something that connects: *This town has very good road and railway connections with the coast.* | *I phoned Andy, but we had such a bad connection that we gave up trying to talk.* | *The radio won't work because of a faulty|loose connection.* (=a wire out of its correct place) **3** [U (**to, with**)] the act of connecting: *The connection of the pipes to the main water supply only took a few minutes.* **4** [C] a plane, train, bus, etc., planned to take passengers arriving by another one: *There are connections at Paris*

for all European capitals. | *If we're late we'll miss our connection.* **5** [C *usu. pl.*] *sometimes derog* a social, professional, or business person with whom one has a working relationship: *He'll get the job – he has all the right connections.* | *connections in high places* **6** [C *usu. pl.*] a person connected to others by a family relationship: *She's English but has Irish connections.* **7 in connection with** with regard to: *In connection with your request of March 18th we are sorry to tell you. . .* | *The police are interviewing two men in connection with the jewel robbery.* **8 in this connection** *fml* while we are mentioning this; in this CONTEXT: *In this connection, I would like to say that ...*

con·nec·tive /kə'nektɪv/ *n, adj fml or tech* **1** (a word) joining phrases, parts of sentences, etc.; CONJUNCTION: *"And" is a frequent connective in English.* **2** (something) joining things together: *The surgeon cut through connective tissue to expose the bone.*

Con·ne·ry /'kɒnəri‖'kɑːn-/, **Sean** /ʃɔːn/ (1930–) a Scottish film actor. He is famous esp. for playing the character of James Bond in several films, such as *Dr No*, and *From Russia With Love.* –see colour picture on page 228

con·ne·xion /kə'nekʃən/ *n BrE* CONNECTION

con·ning tow·er /'·· ¸··/ *n tech* a heavily armoured raised place on a warship or on top of a SUBMARINE (=underwater ship)

con·nip·tion /kə'nɪpʃən/ also **conniption fit** /·'·· ¸·/– *n AmE infml humor* an attack of great anger or of being upset, often about something not very important. It is usually said of another person, not of oneself: *Your mother's going to have a conniption when she finds out you took her car.*

con·niv·ance /kə'naɪvəns/ *n* [U (**at, with**)] the act of conniving: *They could not have escaped without the connivance of the guards.*

con·nive /kə'naɪv/ *v* [I (**with**)] to work together secretly for some wrong or illegal purpose; CONSPIRE: [+*to-v*] *The two students connived (with each other) to cheat in the examination.*

connive at sthg. *phr v* [T] *BrE* to make no attempt to stop (something wrong): *The young policeman connived at the man's escape because he felt sorry for him.*

con·nois·seur /¸kɒnə'sɜːr‖¸kɑː-/ *n* [(**of**)] *apprec* a person who has a good knowledge and understanding of subjects such as art or music, and whose judgments are respected: *a connoisseur of fine wines|antique furniture* | *Ask Julia; she's something of a connoisseur of modern art.*

Con·nol·ly /'kɒnəli‖'kɑː-/, **Billy** (1942–) a Scottish COMEDIAN from Glasgow, known for having long hair and a beard, and telling rude stories and jokes in a strong Scottish ACCENT

Con·nors /'kɒnəz‖'kɑːnərz/, **Jimmy** (1952–) an American tennis player who won at Wimbledon in 1974

con·no·ta·tion /¸kɒnə'teɪʃən‖¸kɑː-/ *n* (any of) the feelings or ideas that are suggested by a word, rather than the actual meaning of the word: *The word "armchair" has connotations of comfort and relaxation.* –compare DENOTATION –**-tative** /'kɒnəteɪtɪv‖'kɑːn-, kə'nəʊtətɪv/ *adj*

con·note /kə'nəʊt/ *v* [T] *esp. tech* (of a word) to suggest (feelings or ideas) in addition to the actual meaning: *The word "plump" connotes cheerfulness.* –compare DENOTE

con·nu·bi·al /kə'njuːbiəl‖-'nuː-/ *adj* [A] *fml* of marriage; CONJUGAL: *living in a state of* **connubial bliss**

con·quer /'kɒŋkər‖'kɑːŋ-/ *v* **1** [I;T] to take (land) by force; win (land) by war: *The Normans conquered England in 1066.* | *a conquering army* | *a conquered city* **2** [I;T] to defeat (an enemy); be victorious over (an enemy): *The Zulus conquered all the neighbouring tribes.* **3** [T] to gain control over (something unfriendly or difficult): *After many attempts to climb it, the mountain was finally conquered in 1985.* | *She conquered her fear and picked up the enormous spider.* | *efforts to conquer inflation* **4** [T] *lit* to succeed in gaining the praise and attention of: *The painter went to Paris intending to conquer the artistic world.* –see also **I came, I saw, I conquered** (COME (21)) –~**or** *n*

con·quest /'kɒŋkwest‖'kɑːŋ-/ *n* **1** [U (**of**)] the act of conquering: *the Norman Conquest* | *the conquest of space* **2** [C] something conquered, esp. land gained in war: *French conquests in Asia* **3** [C] *often humor* a person (usu. of the opposite sex) whose admiration or love has been won: *She's one of his numerous conquests.*

con·quis·ta·dor /kɒn'kwɪstədɔːr‖kɑːn'kiː-/ *n* **-dores** /kɒn¸kwɪstə'dɔːreɪz‖kɑːn¸kiː-/ *or* **-dors** (*often cap.*) any of the Spanish conquerors of Mexico and Peru in the 16th century

Con·rad /'kɒnræd‖'kɑːn-/, **Joseph** (1857–1924) a British NOVELIST of Polish origin. His books, which include *Heart of Darkness*, *Lord Jim* and *Nostromo*, were about foreign settings, sea life, and how it feels to be an outsider.

Con·rail , ConRail /'kɒnreɪl‖'kɑːn-/ a system of FREIGHT railways in the US, set up under loose government control –compare AMTRAK

Con·ran /'kɒnrən‖'kɑːn-/, **Ter·ence** /'terəns/ (1931–) an English DESIGNER and businessman, best-known for establishing Habitat, where he sold a popular range of furniture, etc.

con·san·guin·i·ty /¸kɒnsæŋ'gwɪnɨti‖¸kɑːn-/ *n* [U] *fml* relationship by birth: *People are not allowed to marry within certain* **degrees of consanguinity**.

con·science /'kɒnʃəns‖'kɑːn-/ *n* [C;U] **1** an inner sense that is conscious of the moral rightness or wrongness of one's behaviour or intentions, and makes one know whether one is doing right or wrong: *Be guided by your conscience.* | *I had a* **bad/guilty conscience** *about not telling her the truth.* | *I haven't done anything wrong – I've got a* **clear conscience**. | *She has no conscience (at all) about cheating.* (=does not feel at all guilty about it) | *I can't advise you what to do – it's a matter of conscience.* (=of your own moral judgment) | *The dog's sad look at the front door* **pricked her conscience** (=made her feel guilty) *and she took him out for a walk.* | *The pictures of the famine stirred the public conscience.* | *a* **prisoner of conscience** (=someone who is in prison for esp. political or religious beliefs) **2 always let your conscience be your guide** a phrase known esp. from a cheerful song in the Disney CARTOON film *Pinnochio* **3 in all conscience** *fml* being fair and reasonable: *I couldn't in all conscience shut him out on such a wet night.* **4 on one's conscience** making one feel guilty: *It's on my conscience that I didn't pay you for the tickets last week.* –see CONSCIOUS (USAGE)

conscience clause /'·· ¸·/ *n* a part of a law that says that the law need not be obeyed by people whose consciences will not allow them to obey it

conscience mon·ey /'·· ¸··/ *n* [U] money paid, usu. secretly, because of something bad one has done in order to satisfy one's guilty conscience

conscience-strick·en /'·· ¸··/ also **conscience-smitten**– *adj* very sorry for having done something wrong

con·sci·en·tious /¸kɒnʃi'enʃəs◂‖¸kɑːn-/ *adj* showing great care, attention, or seriousness of purpose: *a conscientious worker* | *a conscientious piece of work* –see CONSCIOUS (USAGE) – ~**ly** *adv* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

conscientious ob·jec·tor /¸···· ·'··/ *n* a person who refuses to serve in the armed forces because of moral or religious beliefs. Although conscientious objectors are officially recognized in Britain and the US, proof is necessary for both governments that a person is really a conscientious objector, e.g. because they belong to a particular religious or PACIFIST organization. During the First World War and the Second World War many conscientious objectors were put in prison in Britain and the US because they could not prove that they belonged to one of these organizations. –see also DRAFT DODGER, VIETNAM WAR – **conscientious objection** *n* [U]

con·scious /'kɒnʃəs‖'kɑːn-/ *adj* **1** [F] having all one's senses working and able to understand what is happening; not in a sleeplike state: *He is badly hurt but still conscious.* | *She was barely conscious.* **2** [F (**of**)] knowing, understanding, or recognizing something; AWARE: *We suddenly became conscious of a sharp increase in the temperature.* | *He wasn't conscious of having offended her.* [+*that*] *I was conscious that he was ill at ease, despite his efforts at conversation.* **3** [A] intentional: *a conscious decision|effort* **4** (*in comb.*) thinking about or very concerned with the stated thing: *a bargain-conscious shopper* | *money-conscious* | *media-conscious politicians* –see also SELF-CONSCIOUS – ~**ly** *adv*

▷ USAGE The opposite of **conscious** is **unconscious**: *He's still* **unconscious/He's not conscious** *yet after the accident.* | *I was* **conscious/unconscious** *of her presence.* In PSYCHOLOGY, **conscious** is compared with **subconscious** or **unconscious**: *the* **conscious/subconscious/unconscious** *(mind)* | *a(n)* **conscious/subconscious/unconscious** *dislike.* None of these words should be confused with **conscientious,** which is related in meaning to **conscience.**◁

con·scious·ness /ˈkɒnʃəsnəs‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* **1** [U] the condition of being awake and able to understand what is happening: *David lost consciousness at eight o'clock and died a few hours later.* | *When will she regain consciousness?* **2** [U] the ideas, feelings, opinions, etc., held by a person or a group of people about the stated thing: *The experience helped to change her social/political consciousness* **3** [S;U (**of**)] a state or quality of knowing or feeling something; awareness (AWARE): *a consciousness of danger* [+*that*] *a consciousness that someone else was in the dark room* – see also STREAM OF CONSCIOUSNESS

consciousness rais·ing /ˈ··· ˌ··/ *n* [U] the process of increasing people's understanding of, and concern about, a moral, social, or political matter: *Deaths from heart disease had risen by so much that the Health Education Council immediately embarked upon a consciousness-raising exercise.*

cons·cript[1] /kənˈskrɪpt/ ‖ also **draft** *AmE*– *v* [T (**into**)] to make (someone) serve in one of the armed forces by law: *My sons were conscripted (into the navy*/for military service) in the last war. –compare RECRUIT[2] (2)

con·script[2] /ˈkɒnskrɪpt‖ˈkɑːn-/ also **draftee** *AmE*– *n* a person made to serve in one of the armed forces by law – compare RECRUIT[1]

con·scrip·tion /kənˈskrɪpʃən/ *n* [U] the practice of making people serve in one of the armed forces by law –see also NATIONAL SERVICE

con·se·crate /ˈkɒnsəkreɪt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *v* [T] **1** to declare as holy in a special ceremony: *to consecrate a new church* | *consecrated bread and wine* | *to be buried in consecrated ground* **2** [(**to**)] *fml* to set apart solemnly for a particular purpose: *He consecrated his life to helping the poor.* –**cration** /ˌkɒnsəˈkreɪʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* [U] : *the consecration of a new bishop*

con·sec·u·tive /kənˈsekjʊətɪv/ *adj* following in regular unbroken order: *The numbers 4, 5, 6 are consecutive.* | *It's been raining for five consecutive days.* –~**ly** *adv*

con·sen·sus /kənˈsensəs/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] a general agreement; the opinion of most of the people in a group: *What is the (general) consensus of opinion, gentlemen?* | *Can we reach a consensus on this issue?* | *the decline of consensus politics in Britain* | *He's not really in touch with* **consensus reality** (=what most people agree is real).

con·sent[1] /kənˈsent/ *v* [I (**to**)] *rather fml* to give one's permission or agreement (to a course of action): *Her father reluctantly consented to the marriage.* –see also ASSENT, DISSENT

consent[2] *n* [U (**to**)] *rather fml* **1** agreement or permission: *My father will never give his consent to our marriage.* | *There is,* **by general/common consent** (=as most people agree), *a serious unemployment problem.* | *The car had been taken without the owner's consent.* –see also AGE OF CONSENT **2 with one consent** *old use* with complete agreement

consenting ad·ult /ˌ·ˌ·· ˈ··, ˌ·ˌ·· ·ˈ·/ *n esp. law* an adult who is willing to take part in sexual, esp. HOMOSEXUAL, acts with another adult. Most kinds of sexual activity are legal only if the people involved are consenting adults. –see also AGE OF CONSENT

con·se·quence /ˈkɒnsəkwəns‖ˈkɑːnsəkwens/ *n* **1** [C (**of**)] something that follows from an action or set of conditions; result: *The high level of unemployment has produced harmful social consequences.* | *The safety procedures had been ignored, with disastrous consequences.* | *You made the wrong decision, and now you must* **take the consequences.** (=accept the bad things that happen as a result) | **As a/In consequence of** *your laziness and rudeness, I am forced to dismiss you.* **2** [U (**to**)] *fml* importance: *It's of little/no consequence to me.*

Con·se·quen·ces /ˈkɒsəkwənsəz‖ˈkɑːnsəkwen-/ *n* [P +*sing.v*] a game played by a group of people, in which a story is written by means of each person adding a sentence without knowing the sentences already written. The stories usu. involve famous people or friends in unlikely humorous or rude situations and the last sentence of the story begins "And the consequence was..."

con·se·quent /ˈkɒnsəkwənt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *adj* [(**to, on**)] following as a result: *Competition in the market has led to goods being produced cheaply and a consequent deterioration in quality.* | *(fml) Severe flooding was consequent on the heavy rains.* –compare SUBSEQUENT; see also CONSEQUENTLY

con·se·quen·tial /ˌkɒnsəˈkwenʃəl◂‖ˌkɑːn-/ *adj fml* **1** important; SIGNIFICANT: *a consequential decision* –opposite **inconsequential** **2** thinking oneself very important; SELF-IMPORTANT: *a bustling consequential little man* **3** consequent

con·se·quent·ly /ˈkɒnsəkwəntli‖ˈkɑːnsəkwen-/ *adv* as a result; therefore: *Much of our knowledge and consequently much of our appreciation of his work is based on one biography.* | *The bank refused to help the company; consequently, it went bankrupt.*

con·ser·van·cy /kənˈsɜːvənsi‖-ɜːr-/ *n BrE* **1** [+*sing./pl. v*] a group of officials who control and protect an area of land, a river, etc.: *the Thames Conservancy* **2** CONSERVATION (2)

con·ser·va·tion /ˌkɒnsəˈveɪʃən‖ˌkɑːnsər-/ *n* [U (**of**)] **1** the act of keeping something from being wasted or lost: *conservation of energy/momentum* | *a renewed appeal for the careful conservation of water supplies* **2** the careful preservation and protection of natural things, such as animals, forests, rivers, and plants, to prevent them being spoiled, wasted, or lost for ever. Conservation has become a very important subject in politics: *wildlife conservation* | *conservation measures* –see also CONSERVE[1]

conservation a·re·a /ˌ··ˈ·· ˌ···/ *n* an area usu. of a town or city with special ARCHITECTURAL or historic interest where the local authority carefully controls building and development work in order to protect the area. There are thousands of conservation areas in Britain.

con·ser·va·tion·ist /ˌkɒnsəˈveɪʃənəst‖ˌkɑːnsər-/ *n* an active supporter of CONSERVATION (2), esp. one who is not in favour of new buildings or new roads if they will cause damage to the natural world: *The plans to build a big road through the forest were cancelled due to pressure from conservationists/from the conservationist lobby.* (=groups of people interested in conservation) –**ism** *n* [U]

con·ser·va·tism /kənˈsɜːvətɪzəm‖-ɜːr-/ *n* [U] **1** dislike of change, esp. sudden change: *people's innate conservatism in matters of language* **2** (*often cap.*) the (political) belief that the established order of society should be kept as it is for as long as possible and that any change should be gradual. In Britain, conservatism is usually thought of in connection with the Conservative Party. In the US, it is usually thought of in connection with the Republican Party.

con·ser·va·tive[1] /kənˈsɜːvətɪv‖-ɜːr-/ *adj* **1** liking old and established ways; not liking change, esp. sudden change: *a very conservative attitude to education* **2** not very modern in style, taste, manners, etc.; TRADITIONAL: *a very conservative suit/hairstyle* **3** careful; intentionally kept rather low: *At a* **conservative estimate,** *the holiday will cost £300.* (=it will probably cost more) –~**ly** *adv*

conservative[2] *n* a CONSERVATIVE (1,2) person: *Aunt Mary's a real conservative. She's totally opposed to women going out to work.*

Conservative also **Tory**– *n, adj* (a member) of the Conservative Party: *Conservative policies* | *the Conservative Member of Parliament for Eastbourne* | *The council consists of eight Labour members, five Liberals, and two Conservatives.*

Conservative Par·ty /ˌ·ˈ··· ˌ··/, **the** also **Tory Party**– [+*sing.*/pl. v] one of the three main British political parties, also known as **the Conservatives** or **the Tories**. It is RIGHT-WING, tending to be opposed to great or sudden changes in the established order of society. It is against state control of industry. The Conservative Party has formed the government in Britain since 1979.: *He's a paid-up member of the Conservative Party.* | *The Conservatives have been in power for 13 years.*

con·ser·va·toire /kənˈsɜːvətwɑːr‖-ɜːr-/ *BrE* ‖ **conservatory**

AmE – *n* a school where people are trained in music or acting

con·ser·va·to·ry /kənˈsɜːvətəri‖-ˈsɜːrvətɔːri/ *n* **1** a glass-enclosed area, sometimes forming part of a house, where plants are grown. People also build conservatories to add more space to their houses, and to make a pleasant place to sit in the sun. **2** *esp. AmE for* CONSERVATOIRE

con·serve[1] /kənˈsɜːv‖-ɜːrv/ *v* [T] to keep from being wasted, damaged, lost, or destroyed; preserve: *Conserve your energy – you'll need it!* | *We must conserve our forests and woodlands for future generations.* | *various methods of conserving electricity*

con·serve[2] /ˈkɒnsɜːv‖ˈkɑːnsɜːrv/ *n* [C *often pl.*;U] *fml* fruit preserved by cooking in sugar; JAM

con·sid·er /kənˈsɪdəʳ/ *v* **1** [I;T] to think about, esp. in order to make a decision; examine: *He paused to consider the situation.* | *Your suggestions will be carefully considered.* [+*v-ing*] *I'm considering changing my job.* (=I may change it) [+*wh-*] *We've decided to move but are still considering where to go to.* **2** [T] to take into account: *Before you decide to leave your job, consider the effect it will have on your family.* [+*that*] *If you consider that she's only been studying English for six months, she speaks it very well. Have you considered how difficult it is for the new students?* –see also CONSIDERING **3** [T+*obj*+*n*/*adj*] to think of in the stated way; regard as: *I consider it a great honour*/*I consider myself greatly honoured to be invited to join the committee.* | *Do you consider her suitable for the job?* | *A further increase in interest rate is now considered unlikely.* **4 Consider it done.** (a phrase used to tell someone who asks you to do something for them that you will be happy to help them): | "Could you possibly type this out for me?" "Consider it done!" **5 be considering one's position** *euph* to be thinking about whether one should RESIGN from one's job

con·sid·e·ra·ble /kənˈsɪdərəbəl/ *adj* fairly large or great; of an amount or degree that must be taken seriously: *A considerable number of people object to the government's attitude to immigration.* | *She has considerable influence with the President.* | *at considerable expense* –compare INCONSIDERABLE

con·sid·e·ra·bly /kənˈsɪdərəbli/ *adv* much; a great deal: *It's considerably colder today than it was yesterday.*

con·sid·er·ate /kənˈsɪdərɨt/ *adj* [(**towards, to**)] *apprec* thoughtful of the wishes, needs, or feelings of others: *Your children are always very considerate towards old people.* | *It was very considerate of you to let us know you were going to be late.* –opposite **inconsiderate** – ~**ly** *adv* – ~**ness** *n* [U] : *I appreciate your considerateness in telling me about it.*

con·sid·e·ra·tion /kənˌsɪdəˈreɪʃən/ *n* **1** [U (**for**)] thoughtful attention to or care for the wishes, needs, or feelings of others: *John never showed any consideration for his mother's feelings.* | *The name of the murdered woman has not been released, out of consideration for her parents.* **2** [U (**for, to**)] careful thought; thoughtful attention: *We shall give your request our fullest consideration.* | *After due*/*long consideration, I have decided to recommend him for the post.* | *She is one of three actresses under consideration for the part.* **3** [C] a fact to be considered when making a decision: *Time is an important consideration.* | *Political rather than economic considerations influenced the location of the new factory.* **4** [C *usu. sing.*] *fml* a payment for a service; reward: *For a small consideration, my friend will help you move your belongings to your new house.* **5 in consideration of** *fml* in return for; because of: *a small payment in consideration of their services* **6 on no consideration** *fml* never; whatever happens: *On no consideration must you leave the patient unattended.* **7 take something into consideration** to remember something when making a judgment or decision: *Your teachers will take your recent illness into consideration when they mark your exams.* | *Taking everything into consideration, the result is better than I expected.*

con·sid·ered /kənˈsɪdəd‖-ərd/ *adj* **1** [A] reached after careful thought: *"What do you think of this painting?" "It's complete rubbish." "Oh, I see. That's your* **considered opinion**, *is it?"* **2** [after *adv*] *fml* thought of in the stated usu. good way: *Her paintings are well considered abroad.*| *a very highly considered General* **3 all things considered** when one considers everything that might have produced a different result: *The ground was muddy, and she hadn't run for a month, so her speed was really quite good, all things considered.*

con·sid·er·ing[1] /kənˈsɪdərɪŋ/ *prep, conj* if one takes into account the rather surprising fact (of): *Considering the strength of the opposition, we did very well to score two goals.* [+*that*/*wh-*] *He did very well in his exams considering that he had studied so little*/*considering how little he had studied.*

considering[2] *adv* (*in end position only*) *infml* when one considers everything that might have produced a different result: *Yes, her speed was quite good, considering.*

con·sign /kənˈsaɪn/ *v* [T] **1** [(**to**)] to send (something) to a person or place for sale: *The goods were consigned to you by railway.* **2** [+*obj*+*prep*] *fml* to put into the care or control of someone else: *The captured rebels were consigned to the dungeons.* | (*humor*) *"Where's her letter?" "I consigned it to the wastepaper basket."*

con·sign·ee /ˌkɒnsaɪˈniː, -sɨˈ-‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n tech* the person to whom something is delivered

con·sign·ment /kənˈsaɪnmənt/ *n* **1** [C (**of**)+*sing.*/*pl. v*] a quantity of goods consigned together: *The last consignment of bananas was bad.* **2** [U] the act of consigning **3 on consignment** sent to a person or shop that pays only for what is sold and returns what is unsold: *to order*/*send*/*ship goods on consignment*

con·sign·or , -er /kənˈsaɪnəʳ/ *n tech* a person who consigns goods

con·sist /kənˈsɪst/ *v*

consist in sthg. *phr v* [T *not in progressive forms*] *fml* to have as a base; depend on: *The beauty of Venice consists largely in the style of its ancient buildings.*

consist of sthg. *phr v* [T *not in progressive forms*] to be made up of: *The United Kingdom consists of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.* | *a cargo of supplies, consisting mainly of food and medicines* –see COMPRISE (USAGE)

con·sis·ten·cy /kənˈsɪstənsi/ also **con·sis·tence** /-ənsi/*rare*– *n* **1** [U] the state of always keeping to the same principles or course of action: *Your behaviour lacks consistency – you say one thing and do another!* – opposite **inconsistency** **2** [C;U] the degree of firmness, stiffness, or thickness: *First mix the butter and sugar to the consistency of thick cream.*

con·sis·tent /kənˈsɪstənt/ *adj* **1** (of a person, behaviour, beliefs, etc.) continually keeping to the same principles or course of action; having a regular pattern: *the defendant's consistent denial of the charges* | *The last five years have seen a consistent improvement in the country's economy.* | *a consistent advocate*/*supporter of penal reform* **2** [(**with**)] in agreement or accordance: *a consistent argument* | *This statement is not consistent with what you said earlier.* | *This development is consistent with the company's aims of reducing its costs.* –opposite **inconsistent** – ~**ly** *adv* : *I'm fed up with your attitude – it's been consistently negative from the very beginning.*

con·so·la·tion /ˌkɒnsəˈleɪʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* [C;U] (a person or thing that gives) comfort during a time of sadness or disappointment: *You boys were a great consolation to me when your father died.* | *I'm sorry I forgot your present: it's not much consolation, I know, but here's your card.* –compare COMPENSATION, RECOMPENSE

consolation prize /ˌ··ˈ·· ·/ *n* a prize given to someone who has not won a competition, esp. to someone who has come second: *The runners-up each received a T-shirt as a consolation prize.*

con·sol·a·to·ry /kənˈsɒlətəri, -ˈsəʊlə-‖-ˈsəʊlətɔːri, -ˈsɑː-/ *adj fml* intended to console

con·sole[1] /kənˈsəʊl/ *v* [T (**with**)] to give comfort or sympathy to (someone) in times of disappointment or sadness: *We tried to console her when her dog died.* | *Console yourself with the thought that it might have been worse!* –see also INCONSOLABLE

con·sole[2] /ˈkɒnsəʊl‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* a flat surface containing the controls for a machine, piece of electrical equipment, ORGAN (4), etc.: *a computer console*

con·sol·i·date /kənˈsɒlɨdeɪt‖-ˈsɑː-/ *v* [I;T] **1** to (cause to) become stronger and firmer: *We've made a good start; now it's time to consolidate.* (=make sure we keep our good position) | *His successful negotiations with the Americans helped him to consolidate his position in the government.* | *The company has consolidated its hold on*

the market. **2** [**(into)**] to (cause to) combine into fewer or one; MERGE: *Several local businesses have recently consolidated to form a single large company.* | *a consolidated school district* —**-dation** /kənˌsɒlˌdeɪʃən‖-ˌsɑː-/ *n* [C;U]: *the consolidation of the three firms*

consolidated fund /·ˌ···· ˈ·/ *n* [*the*+S] *tech* (in Britain) money collected from taxation in order to pay the interest on the national debt

con·sols /kənˈsɒlz‖-ˈsɑːlz/ *n* [P] *tech* British government BONDS which earn interest and are repayable on demand

con·som·mé /kənˈsɒmeɪ, ˈkɒnsəmeɪ‖ˌkɑːnsəˈmeɪ/ *n* [U] clear soup made from meat and/or vegetables

con·so·nance /ˈkɒnsənəns‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* **1** [U **(with)**] *fml* agreement among parts **2** [C;U] *tech* a pleasant-sounding combination of musical notes; HARMONY — opposite **dissonance**

con·so·nant[1] /ˈkɒnsənənt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* **1** any of the speech sounds made by partly or completely stopping the flow of air as it goes through the mouth **2** a letter representing a consonant sound; any of the letters of the English alphabet except a, e, i, o, u

consonant[2] *adj* **1** [**(with, to)**] *fml* in agreement; CONSISTENT: *This policy is scarcely consonant with the government's declared aims.* **2** *tech* having musical consonance —opposite **dissonant**

con·sort[1] /ˈkɒnsɔːt‖ˈkɑːnsɔːrt/ *n* a wife or husband, esp. of a ruler —see also PRINCE CONSORT, QUEEN CONSORT

consort[2] *n fml* **1** a group of musicians who perform music of former times, or the group of old-fashioned instruments they use: *a consort of viols* **2 in consort (with)** together (with): *He ruled in consort with his father.*

con·sort[3] /kənˈsɔːt‖-ɔːrt/ *v*

consort together *phr v* [I] *often derog* to consort with each other: *Thieves often consort together.*

consort with sbdy. *phr v* [T] *often derog* to spend time in the company of (esp. bad people): *to consort with criminals*

con·sor·ti·um /kənˈsɔːtiəm‖-ɔːr-/ *n* **-tiums** *or* **-tia** /tiə/ a combination of several companies, banks, etc., for a common purpose: *The new aircraft was developed by a European consortium.*

con·spec·tus /kənˈspektəs/ *n* [**(of)**] *fml* a short report, a set of tables, etc., giving a general view of a subject

con·spic·u·ous /kənˈspɪkjuəs/ *adj* [**(for)**] noticeable; attracting attention; easily seen: *a conspicuous high-rise office block* | *He was conspicuous for his bravery.* | *You were* **conspicuous by your absence** *yesterday.* (=people noticed you were not present) —opposite **inconspicuous** —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

conspicuous con·sump·tion /·ˌ··· ·ˈ··/ *n* [U] wasteful spending intended to attract attention and show one's wealth and high social position, esp. done by people who have recently become wealthy and want other people to know it

con·spi·ra·cy /kənˈspɪrəsi/ *n* [C;U] a secret plan by two or more people to do something against the law: *a fraud conspiracy* [+*to-v*] *a conspiracy to smuggle drugs into the country* | *The men were found guilty of conspiracy to murder.* —see also CONSPIRATOR

conspiracy of si·lence /·ˌ··· · ˈ··/ *n* **conspiracies of silence** a secret agreement to keep silent about something bad, esp. for selfish reasons

conspiracy theo·ry /·ˈ··· ˌ··/ *n* [S] an explanation of an event based on the belief that it was caused by a group of powerful people acting and planning it in secret: *the conspiracy theory explanation of President Kennedy's assassination*

con·spi·ra·tor /kənˈspɪrətəʳ/ *n* a person who takes part in a conspiracy

con·spi·ra·to·ri·al /kənˌspɪrəˈtɔːriəl/ *adj* of or suggesting a conspiracy or a conspirator: *a conspiratorial gathering* | *a conspiratorial glance/wink* —~**ly** *adv*

con·spire /kənˈspaɪəʳ/ *v* [I+*to-v*] **1** [**(with,** TOGETHER**)**] to plan (something bad) together secretly; take part in a conspiracy: *The criminals conspired (together/with each other) to rob a bank.* **2** (of events) to combine or work together, esp. with bad results: *Events conspired to produce great difficulties for the government.*

con·sta·ble /ˈkʌnstəbəl‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* **1** a British police officer of the lowest rank: *Send Constable Timms.* | *Please could you help me, Constable?* —see also PATROLMAN (1), P.C., W.P.C., OFFICER (3) **2** *tech* the governor of a royal castle **3** *tech* (in former times) an important official in a royal or noble HOUSEHOLD

Constable, John (1776–1837) an English painter known esp. for his paintings and drawings of Suffolk scenery, esp. *The Haywain*, which is one of the most famous British paintings —see colour picture on page 1016

con·stab·u·la·ry /kənˈstæbjʊləri‖-leri/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] *esp. BrE* the police force of a particular area or country —see also PATROL (5)

con·stan·cy /ˈkɒnstənsi‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* [U] *fml* **1** freedom from change: *constancy of purpose/of temperature* **2** faithfulness; loyalty: *constancy between husband and wife*

con·stant[1] /ˈkɒnstənt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *adj* **1** fixed or unchanging; INVARIABLE: *He drove at a constant speed.* | *A thermostat keeps the temperature constant.* **2** continually happening or repeated; regular: *constant arguments* | *The machinery requires constant maintenance.* | *under constant attack in the newspapers* **3** *lit* loyal; faithful: *a constant friend* —~**ly** *adv*

constant[2] *n tech* something, esp. a number or quantity, that never varies —compare VARIABLE[2]

Con·stan·tine the Great /ˌkɒnstəntaɪn ðə ˈgreɪt‖ˌkɑːn-/ (274–337 AD) the first Christian ruler of the Roman Empire, also known as **Constantine I**. He was responsible for the establishment of the Byzantine Empire, and set up its most important city, Constantinople, in 330 AD.

Con·stan·ti·no·ple /ˌkɒnstæntɨˈnəʊpəl‖ˌkɑːn-/ the city on the Bosphorus which was the capital of the Byzantine Empire for seven centuries from 330 AD onwards, when it was set up by Constantine the Great on the place where Byzantium had formerly stood. Later it was the capital of Turkey. It is now called Istanbul.

con·stel·la·tion /ˌkɒnstɨˈleɪʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* **1** a number of stars seen from the Earth as a group and often having a name (e.g. the Great Bear) **2** [**(of)**] *lit* a group or gathering, esp. an admired one: *a constellation of famous television performers*

con·ster·na·tion /ˌkɒnstəˈneɪʃən‖ˌkɑːnstər-/ *n* [U] *rather fml* great shock and worry or fear; DISMAY: *He was filled with consternation to hear that his friend was so ill.* | *To his consternation, he realized that he had left his chequebook at home.* | *She found, to her utter/total consternation, that she was pregnant.*

con·sti·pa·tion /ˌkɒnstɨˈpeɪʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* [U] the condition of being unable to empty the bowels frequently enough and/or effectively: *"I've got terrible constipation, mum." "Take a laxative."* —**-ted** /ˈkɒnstɨpeɪtɨd‖ˈkɑːn-/ *adj*: *You'll get constipated if you never eat fruit.*

con·sti·tu·en·cy /kənˈstɪtʃuənsi/ *n* **1** any of the areas of a country that elect a representative to a parliament: *I must protest at the siting of the new missile base in my constituency.* | *Our MP doesn't even live in this constituency.* **2** [+*sing./pl. v*] the voters living in such an area: *The constituency is/are voting tomorrow.* —compare WARD[1] (2) **3** any group that supports or is likely to support a politician or party: *Big business is his most important constituency.* —see also extra information on page 0000

con·sti·tu·ent[1] /kənˈstɪtʃuənt/ *n* **1** a voter; member of a constituency: *The minister's constituents feel that he does not spend enough time dealing with their problems.* **2** any of the parts that make up a whole: *the constituents of gunpowder/cement* —compare COMPONENT

constituent[2] *adj* [A] being one of the parts that make a whole: *the constituent parts of an atom* | *The EC and its constituent members*

constituent as·sem·bly /·ˌ··· ·ˈ··/ *BrE* ‖ **constitutional convention** *AmE* — *n* (*often caps.*) a body of representatives elected to establish or change the constitution of a country

con·sti·tute /ˈkɒnstɨtjuːt‖ˈkɑːnstɨtuːt/ *v fml* **1** [L *not in progressive forms*] to form or make up; be: *the 50 states that constitute the USA* | *Your attitude constitutes a direct challenge to my authority.* —see COMPRISE (USAGE) **2** [T] to formally establish or appoint: *Governments should be constituted by the will of the people.*

con·sti·tu·tion /ˌkɒnstɨˈtjuːʃən‖ˌkɑːnstɨˈtuː-/ *n* **1** [C] (*often cap.*) the system of laws and principles according to

which a country or an organization is governed. Although the constitution of most countries is written down, the British constitution is not: *a proposal to amend* (=change) *the club's constitution.* —see also CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES **2** [C] the general condition of a person's body or mind: *an old man with a weak constitution* **3** [C (**of**)] *fml* the way in which something is put together: *objections to the constitution of the committee* **4** [U (**of**)] the act of establishing, making, or setting up — see also extra information on page 568

con·sti·tu·tion·al[1] /ˌkɒnstɪˈtjuːʃənəl◂‖ˌkɑːnstɪˈtuː-/ *adj* **1** allowed or limited by a political constitution: *There are severe constitutional constraints on the power of the British monarchy.* | *a constitutional government* | *constitutional rights* | *The government can't refuse to hold a by-election – it's not constitutional.* —opposite **unconstitutional**; also CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY; see CONSTITUTIONALITY (CULTURAL NOTE) **2** of a political constitution: *a constitutional crisis* **3** of a person's constitution: *a constitutional weakness of the chest* —see also CONSTITUTIONALLY

constitutional[2] *n old-fash* a walk taken to keep oneself healthy

constitutional con·ven·tion /ˌ····· ·ˈ··/ *n AmE* a body of representatives elected to establish or change the constitution of a country: CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

Constitutional Convention [*the*] the meeting of representatives in 1787 in Philadelphia that led to the writing of the Constitution of the United States of America

con·sti·tu·tion·al·is·m /ˌkɒnstɪˈtjuːʃənəlɪzəm‖ˌkɑːnstɪˈtuː-/ *n* [U] the belief that a government should be based on established laws and principles —**-ist** *n*

con·sti·tu·tion·al·i·ty /ˌkɒnstɪtjuːʃəˈnælɪti‖ˌkɑːnstɪtuː-/ *n* [U] the quality of being in agreement with a CONSTITUTION (1): *The senator questioned the constitutionality of the proposed law.*

► CULTURAL NOTE In the US all laws that come into effect must be in agreement with the Constitution of the United States, whether they are passed at the local, state, or FEDERAL (= national) level. If someone thinks a law is **unconstitutional**, they can ask for a judgment about the law in the courts. A law, or any decision based on it, cannot remain in force if it is found by a court to be **unconstitutional**. Questions which come before the Supreme Court (= the highest court in the US) are always about the **constitutionality** of laws or of legal actions. Americans respect their Constitution very highly because it protects their political freedoms. ◄

con·sti·tu·tion·al·ly /ˌkɒnstɪˈtjuːʃənəli‖ˌkɑːnstɪˈtuː-/ *adv* **1** in accordance with a political constitution: *The government must always act constitutionally.* **2** in accordance with a person's constitution: *Margaret is constitutionally incapable of modifying her opinions.*

constitutional mon·ar·chy /ˌ····· ˈ···/ *n* a state ruled by a king or queen, in which the powers of the ruler are restricted to those allowed by the CONSTITUTION and laws of the country —compare ABSOLUTE MONARCHY

Constitution of the U·nit·ed States /··ˌ·· · · ·ˌ·· ˈ·/ also **Constitution** [*the*] the highest law of the government of the US, consisting of seven ARTICLES and 25 AMENDMENTS (= a change to the original) which were written down in 1787 and officially came into use in 1789. The Constitution of the US sets out how the government should be formed and what the rights of States and individuals are. When it was first written the rights of individuals were not included, but in 1791 ten AMENDMENTS (additions) known as the Bill of Rights were added. Most Americans would recognize the PREAMBLE (beginning statement) of the Constitution, which reads, "We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

con·strain /kənˈstreɪn/ *v* [T] *fml* to hold back, or force into an unwanted action, by limiting one's freedom to act or choose: *Our research has been constrained by lack of cash.* [+*obj*+*to-v*] *I felt constrained to do what he told me.*

con·strained /kənˈstreɪnd/ *adj* awkward; unnatural: *a constrained manner|smile* — ~**ly** /nədli/ *adv*

con·straint /kənˈstreɪnt/ *n fml* **1** [C (**on**)] something that limits one's freedom of action; RESTRICTION: *legal|financial constraints on the company's activities* | (*tech*) *constraints on the rules of grammar* **2** [U] a forced or unnatural manner, hiding one's natural feelings and behaviour: *The children showed unusual constraint in the presence of the new teacher.* **3** [U] the threat or use of force as a strong influence on one's actions; COMPULSION: *We obeyed, but under constraint.*

con·strict /kənˈstrɪkt/ *v* [T] *fml* to make narrower, smaller, or tighter: *The tight collar constricted his neck|his breathing.* —compare RESTRICT — ~**ion** /ˈstrɪkʃən/ *n* [C;U] : *(a) constriction of the blood vessels* — ~**ive** /ˈstrɪktɪv/ *adj*

con·stric·tor /kənˈstrɪktəʳ/ *n tech* **1** a muscle that reduces or increases the size of an organ in the body **2** a snake, such as a BOA, that kills animals by winding itself round them and crushing them

con·struct[1] /kənˈstrʌkt/ *v* [T] **1** [(**from, of, out of**)] to build; make by putting together or combining parts: *to construct a bridge|a sentence|an argument* **2** *tech* to draw (a GEOMETRIC figure) using suitable instruments: *Construct a square on this line.* — ~**or** *n*

con·struct[2] /ˈkɒnstrʌkt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n tech* an idea formed in the mind by combining pieces of information; CONCEPT: *theoretical constructs*

con·struc·tion /kənˈstrʌkʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the work of building; building industry: *He works in construction|in the construction industry.* | *construction workers* **2** [U] the act or process of constructing: *There are two new hotels* **under construction**. (=being built) | *a lucrative contract for the construction of four new power stations.* | *A chair is an object of simple construction.* **3** [C] something constructed, esp. a building: *a peculiarly shaped construction* **4** [C] *tech* the arrangement and relationship of words in a phrase or sentence: *A learner's dictionary should give both the meanings of words and examples of the constructions in which they are used.* **5** [C] a meaning or explanation given to a statement, action, etc.; INTERPRETATION: *Please don't* **put the wrong construction on** *his odd behaviour.* — ~**al** *adj*

con·struc·tive /kənˈstrʌktɪv/ *adj* (esp. of a statement or remark) useful; helping to improve or develop something: *a very constructive attitude|suggestion* | *constructive criticism* (=telling you how to improve) —compare DESTRUCTIVE (2) — ~**ly** *adv* — ~**ness** *n* [U]

con·strue /kənˈstruː/ *v* [T] **1** [+*obj*+*adv|prep*] *fml* to place a particular meaning on (a statement, action, etc.); understand or explain in a particular way: *They construed her silence as meaning that she agreed.* | *I think my remarks have been wrongly construed.* —see also MISCONSTRUE **2** *tech* to explain the relationship of words in (a sentence), esp. when translating Latin or Greek

con·sub·stan·ti·a·tion /ˌkɒnsəbstænʃiˈeɪʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* [U] *tech* the belief that the body and blood of Christ are present together with the bread and wine offered by the priest during Communion (=a Christian religious service) —compare TRANSUBSTANTIATION

con·sul /ˈkɒnsəl‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* **1** a person appointed by a government to protect and help its citizens and its interests in trade in a foreign city —compare AMBASSADOR, HIGH COMMISSIONER **2** either of the two chief public officials of the ancient Roman republic, each elected for one year — ~**ar** /ˈkɒnsjʊələ^{r}‖ˈkɑːnsələr/ *adj* : *the consular office*|section of the embassy — ~**ship** *n* [C;U]

con·su·late /ˈkɒnsjʊlət‖ˈkɑːnsələt/ *n* **1** the official building in which a CONSUL (1) lives or works **2** the rank or period of office of a consul

con·sult /kənˈsʌlt/ *v* [T] to go to (a book, a person with special knowledge, etc.) for information, advice, etc.: *to consult a dictionary* | *Have you consulted a doctor about your rash?* | *Why was I not consulted before you made the decision?* | *to consult a lawyer*

consult with sbdy. *phr v* [T *pass. rare*] to exchange opinions, information, etc., with: *Before we can accept the management's offer we must consult with the workers again.*

con·sul·tant /kənˈsʌltənt/ *n* **1** [(**to**)] a person who gives specialist professional advice to others: *a consultant to a software firm* | *an industrial relations consultant* | *a firm of consultants* **2** *esp. BrE* ‖ **specialist** *AmE* a high ranking hospital doctor who gives specialist advice.

Usually a person goes to an ordinary doctor first, and is then sent to a consultant. —**tancy** *n* : *He was appointed to a lucrative consultancy.*

con·sul·ta·tion /ˌkɒnsəlˈteɪʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* **1** [C (**on, about**) *often pl.*] a meeting held to exchange opinions and ideas, esp. so that a decision can be made: *We held a hurried consultation on the stairs outside her room.* | *After consultations with his military advisers, the President decided to declare war.* **2** [U (**with**)] the act or process of consulting: *Implementation of the proposed changes would require consultation with teachers and parents.* | *We made the decision* **in consultation with** *the union members.*

con·sul·ta·tive /kənˈsʌltətɪv/ *adj* that can give advice or make suggestions; ADVISORY: *a consultative committee*

con·sult·ing /kənˈsʌltɪŋ/ *adj* [A] **1** providing specialist or professional advice: *a consulting lawyer* **2** of or for consultation or a consultant: *a doctor's consulting room*

con·su·ma·bles /kənˈsjuːməbəlz‖-ˈsuː-/ *n* [P] food or provisions that can be consumed

con·sume /kənˈsjuːm‖-ˈsuːm/ *v* [T] *fml* **1** to eat or drink, esp. eagerly or in large amounts **2** to use up (time, money, goods, etc.): *Arguing about details consumed many hours of the committee's valuable time.* | *a* **time-consuming** *process* | *Furnaces consume fuel.* | *a growing gap between what the country produces and what it consumes* —see also CONSUMPTION **3** (of a fire) to destroy: *The fire soon consumed the wooden buildings.* **4** [*often pass.*] to fill the thoughts or feelings of continuously, esp. in a damaging way: *She was consumed with guilt/jealousy.* —see also CONSUMING

con·sum·er /kənˈsjuːməʳ‖-ˈsuː-/ *n* a person who buys and uses goods and services: *The price increases were passed on by the firm to the consumers.* | *a consumer advice and protection centre* | *consumer surveys*

Consumer Coun·cil /ˌ···ˈ· ˌ··/ [*the*] an independent public body in Britain which between 1963 and 1971 performed a similar service to the Consumers' Association in protecting the rights of consumers

consumer dur·a·bles /ˌ···ˈ···/ *BrE* ‖ **durable goods** *AmE*– *n* [P] large articles that are only bought infrequently, such as cars, beds, or televisions (as opposed to something bought regularly, such as food or clothes)

consumer goods /ˌ···ˈ· ˌ·/ *n* [P] goods such as food, clothing, and equipment used in the home —compare CAPITAL GOODS

con·sum·er·ism /kənˈsjuːmərɪzəm‖-ˈsuː-/ *n* [U] **1** the idea or belief that buying as many goods as possible is desirable for a person or society **2** support for the interests of consumers, e.g. in making sure that prices are not too high, that the quality of goods is satisfactory, etc.

consumer price in·dex /ˌ···ˈ· ˌ··/ *n AmE* a list of figures available from the government each month that show what ordinary people must pay for various goods and services, and how much these prices have gone up or down in relation to previous figures —compare RETAIL PRICE INDEX

consumer pro·tec·tion /ˌ···ˈ·ˌ··/ *n* [U] actions by government, business, and private groups to protect people who buy things from being physically hurt, cheated, or treated unfairly in any way

consumer re·search /ˌ···ˈ·ˌ·, ˌ···ˈ··/ *n* [U] the study of what people who buy goods and services want, like, and buy, in order to test the market for a new product. This is often done by someone questioning people in shops, or visiting them at home: *After extensive consumer research the new product was launched.*

Consumer Re·ports /ˌ···ˈ·ˌ·/ an American magazine which tests and reports on the quality of consumer products. It accepts no advertising and the information it provides is highly respected as being dependable —compare WHICH?

Consumers' As·so·ci·a·tion /ˌ···ˈ·· ···ˌ··/ [*the*] a British organization that looks after the interests of CONSUMERS, esp. by testing products and services available, in order to suggest the best ones to buy, and that also fights for the rights of consumers generally —see also WHICH?

consumer so·ci·e·ty /ˌ···ˈ·· ·ˌ···/ *n* a society in which the production of consumer goods and the satisfaction of human wants are seen to be very important: *We live in a consumer society.*

consumer ter·ror·is·m /ˌ···ˈ·· ˈ····/ *n* [U] the deliberate spoiling of food or other products on sale to the public, in order either to obtain money from the company which sells the product or to protest against something the company is doing. An example of this in 1989 involved objects, such as broken glass and pins, being put into baby food in Britain in order to BLACKMAIL the food company: *The government said it would not give way to consumer terrorism.* | *a campaign of consumer terrorism* —**ist** *n*

con·sum·ing /kənˈsjuːmɪŋ‖-ˈsuː-/ *adj* [A] (of feelings, etc.) very strong and having a controlling influence: *It was her consuming ambition to become an architect.* | *a consuming interest/passion*

con·sum·mate[1] /kənˈsʌmɪt/ *adj* [A *no comp.*] *fml* **1** perfect; complete: *He won the race with consummate ease.* | *consummate happiness/skill* **2** highly skilled: *a consummate liar/politician* —~**ly** *adv*

con·sum·mate[2] /ˈkɒnsəmeɪt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *v* [T] *fml* **1** to make (a marriage) complete by having sex. In English and American law a marriage is legal after the wedding, but it is not considered complete until sex has taken place, and it can be declared NULL AND VOID if one partner cannot or will not consummate the marriage in this way. **2** to finish or perfect; complete: *His happiness was consummated when she agreed to spend the day with him.* | *to consummate a business deal*

con·sum·ma·tion /ˌkɒnsəˈmeɪʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* **1** [C (**of**) *usu. sing.*] the point at which something is made complete or perfect: *the consummation of ten years' work* **2** [U] the act of consummating a marriage

con·sump·tion /kənˈsʌmpʃən/ *n* **1** [S;U (**of**)] the act of consuming or an amount consumed (CONSUME): *Consumption of oil has declined in recent years.* | *The food was declared unfit for human consumption.* | *The car's fuel consumption is very high.* | *There's too great a consumption of alcohol in Britain.* —see also CONSPICUOUS CONSUMPTION **2** [U] *old use* TUBERCULOSIS of the lungs (=a serious disease): *She died from/of consumption.*

con·sump·tive /kənˈsʌmptɪv/ *n, adj old use* (a person) suffering from TUBERCULOSIS of the lungs

cont *written abbrev. for:* **1** containing **2** contents **3** CONTINENT[1] **4** continued

con·tact[1] /ˈkɒntækt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* **1** [U (**with**)] the act or state of touching or coming together: *His drill* **came into contact with** *an electric cable, and he was nearly electrocuted.* | *Have the children been in contact with the disease?* | *They avoided* **eye contact** (=avoided looking directly at each other) *all evening.* **2** [U (**with**)] the state of having a connection or exchanging information or ideas with someone else; COMMUNICATION: *Until recently, this remote tribe had little contact with the outside world.* | *Have you been* **in contact with** *your solicitor recently?* | *We* **made contact with** *the ship by radio.* | *Are you in radio contact with the climbers?* | *I've lost contact with George in the last few months.* (=I have not seen him, telephoned him, had a letter from him, etc.) **3** [C] *infml* a social, professional, or business connection; a person one knows who can help one: *I've got a useful contact in the tax office.* | *Ask Henry – he's got the right contacts/some good contacts.* **4** [C] an electrical part that can be moved to touch another part in order to complete an electrical CIRCUIT **5** [C] *infml for* CONTACT LENS

contact[2] *v* [T] to reach (someone) by message, telephone, etc.: *Have you contacted the child's parents?* | *For further information, contact your local agent.*

contact[3] *adj* [A] caused or made active by touch: *contact poisons/explosives* | *He doesn't like playing* **contact sports**. (=sports which involve physical contact with other players)

contact der·ma·ti·tis /ˌ·· ··ˈ··/ *n* [U] a painful condition of the skin caused by direct contact with a substance, esp. a chemical, which makes the skin react by becoming red and swollen

contact lens /ˈ·· ·/ also **lens, contact** *infml*– *n* [*often pl.*] a small plastic LENS shaped to fit closely over the centre of the eye to improve the eyesight, or sometimes to change the colour of the eyes: *hard/soft contact lenses* – see PAIR (USAGE)

contact print /ˈ·· ·/ *n tech* a photographic print made by putting an exposed film into direct contact with paper

or film and allowing light to reach it

con·ta·gion /kənˈteɪdʒən/ *n fml* **1** [C;U] the act of spreading a disease by touch, or a disease spread in this way —compare INFECTION **2** [C (**of**)] a harmful influence that spreads from person to person: *a contagion of fear*

con·ta·gious /kənˈteɪdʒəs/ *adj* **1** (of a disease) that can be passed from one person to another by touch: *Measles is highly contagious.* | (fig.) *contagious laughter|enthusiasm* —compare INFECTIOUS **2** (of a person) having a contagious disease —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

con·tain /kənˈteɪn/ *v* [T *not in progressive forms*] **1** to hold; have within itself or as a part: *That box contains old letters.* | *Beer contains alcohol.* | *This book contains all the information you need.* | *The bill contained several new clauses.* | *a file containing classified information* —see also CONTENTS **2** to hold back; keep under control or within limits: *Try to contain your enthusiasm|anger!* | *She couldn't contain herself any longer – she simply had to tell him the good news.* | *Doctors are struggling to contain the epidemic.* —see also SELF-CONTAINED **3** *tech* to surround (esp. an angle): *How big is the angle contained by these two sides?*

con·tain·er /kənˈteɪnəʳ/ *n* **1** a box, barrel, bottle, or any other object used for holding something: *Can you find some kind of container for these buttons?* **2** *tech* a very large usu. metal box in which goods are packed to make it easy to lift or move them, e.g. onto a ship or road vehicle: *a cargo container* | *a container port* (=port that handles ships that carry containers)

con·tain·er·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /kənˈteɪnəraɪz/ *v* [T] *tech* **1** to pack (goods) in CONTAINERS (2) **2** to change (a place) so that CONTAINERS (2) can be used there: *plans to containerize the port* —**-ization** /kənˌteɪnəraɪˈzeɪʃən‖-rə-/ *n* [U]

con·tain·ment /kənˈteɪnmənt/ *n* [U] **1** the act of containing (CONTAIN (2)) something: *the containment of an epidemic|of crowd violence at soccer matches* **2** the use of political means other than war to prevent an unfriendly state from becoming more powerful

con·tam·i·nant /kənˈtæmɨnənt/ *n* something that contaminates

con·tam·i·nate /kənˈtæmɨneɪt/ *v* [T] to make impure or bad by mixing in impure, dirty, or poisonous matter: *Large areas of land have been contaminated by the leakage from the nuclear reactor.* | *contaminated food|drugs* | (fig.) *Our students are being contaminated by his extreme right-wing ideas!* —**-nator** *n* —**-nation** /kənˌtæmɨˈneɪʃən/ *n* [U]: *radioactive contamination*

con·tan·go /kənˈtæŋgəʊ/ *n* **-gos** *BrE tech* a sum of money which someone buying SHARES[1] (2) pays to the seller in order to delay delivery until a later date —compare BACKWARDATION

contd *written abbrev. for:* continued

con·tem·plate /ˈkɒntəmpleɪt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *v* **1** [T] to think (about) deeply and thoughtfully, esp. when considering a possible course of action or future event: *The doctor contemplated the difficult operation he had to perform.* | *The possibility of war is too horrifying to contemplate!* | *He refuses to contemplate change.* [+*v-ing*] *The government has contemplated reforming the entire tax system.* | (*infml*) *I hope your mother isn't contemplating coming to stay with us!* | **2** [T] *fml* to look at quietly and solemnly: *to contemplate a beautiful sunset* **3 contemplate one's navel** *humor* to think deeply; used esp. when one is not doing anything very much

con·tem·pla·tion /ˌkɒntəmˈpleɪʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* [U (**of**)] **1** the act of thinking deeply and quietly; deep thought: *She seemed lost in contemplation.* | *The monks spent an hour in contemplation each morning.* **2** *fml* the act of looking at something quietly and solemnly —**-plative** /kənˈtemplətɪv, ˈkɒntəmpleɪtɪv‖kən-, ˈkɑːntem-/ *adj*: *He has a quiet, contemplative nature.*

con·tem·po·ra·ne·ous /kənˌtempəˈreɪniəs/ *adj* [(**with**)] *fml* existing or happening during the same period of time; CONTEMPORARY (2) —~**ly** *adv* —**-neity** /kənˌtempərəˈniːɨti/ *n* [U]

con·tem·po·ra·ry[1] /kənˈtempərəri, -pəri‖-pərəri/ *adj* **1** modern; belonging to the present time: *contemporary dress|art|morals* | *a contemporary building* **2** [(**with**)] of or belonging to the same (stated) time: *Beethoven was contemporary with Napoleon.* | *Contemporary reports of past events are often more interesting than modern historians' view of them.* —see NEW (USAGE)

contemporary[2] *n* a person living at the same time or of the same age as another: *John is a contemporary of mine; we were at school together.* | *Beethoven and Napoleon were contemporaries.*

con·tempt /kənˈtempt/ *n* [U] **1** [(**for**)] a total lack of respect; the feeling that someone or something is completely worthless, unimportant, or undesirable; DISDAIN: *Take no notice of them – treat them with the contempt they deserve.* | *His contempt for most of his fellow politicians is clearly expressed in his book.* | *He is completely* **beneath contempt**. (=not even worth the effort of feeling contempt) | *I hold those fools in (utter) contempt.* —compare DISDAIN[1] **2** [(**of**)] disobedience of or disrespect towards a judge, court of law, etc: *He was charged with* **contempt of court**. | *He was found in contempt of the order.*

con·temp·ti·ble /kənˈtemptɨbəl/ *adj* deserving to be treated with contempt; DESPICABLE: *That was a contemptible trick to play on a friend!* | *an absolutely contemptible little man* —**-bly** *adv*

con·temp·tu·ous /kənˈtemptʃuəs/ *adj* [(**of**)] showing contempt: *He gave a contemptuous laugh.* | *Contemptuous of danger, he rushed back into the burning building.* —~**ly** *adv*: *She tossed her head contemptuously.*

con·tend /kənˈtend/ *v* **1** [I (**against, for, with**)] to compete or struggle against difficulties: *They are contending for the championship.* | *I've got enough problems to contend with, without your interference!* **2** [T+*that*;~~*obj*~~] *fml* to claim; say or state strongly: *The police contended that the man was in the area at the time of the robbery.* —see also CONTENTION

con·tend·er /kənˈtendəʳ/ *n* [(**for**)] (esp. in sports) a person who takes part in a competition: *a serious contender for the championship* | *a leading contender to succeed the prime minister*

con·tent[1] /kənˈtent/ *adj* [F (**with**)] satisfied; happy; not wanting more than one has: *content with life* [+*to-v*] *John seems content to sit in front of the television all night.* | (*derog*) **Not content with** *having overthrown the government, the military dictator imprisoned all his opponents.* —see also CONTENTED

content[2] *v* [T] **1** to make happy or satisfied **2 content oneself with** to limit oneself to, and be satisfied with: *As he had to drive home after the party, he contented himself with two glasses of beer.*

content[3] *n* [U] *lit* CONTENTMENT —opposite **discontent**; see also **to one's heart's content** (HEART)

con·tent[4] /ˈkɒntent‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* **1** [U] the subject matter, esp. the ideas, of a book, speech, etc.: *I like the style of his writing but I don't like the content.* **2** [S] the amount of the stated substance contained in something: *the lead content of paint* | *food with a high fat content* —compare CONTENTS

con·tent·ed /kənˈtentɨd/ *adj* satisfied; quietly happy: *contented cows* | *a contented smile* —~**ly** *adv*

con·ten·tion /kənˈtenʃən/ *n fml* **1** [C] a point of view that one argues in favour of; ASSERTION: *I strongly oppose that contention.* [+*that*] *It is my contention that the plan would never have been successful.* —see also **bone of contention** (BONE) **2** [U (**against, for, with, between**)] arguing, competing, or struggling between people: *The pay increase is the key point of contention.* | *This issue is no longer* **in contention.** (=being argued about) | *Losing three matches in a row has put them out of contention for the championship title.* (=they are no longer able to win it)

con·ten·tious /kənˈtenʃəs/ *adj fml* **1** likely to cause argument; CONTROVERSIAL: *a contentious issue|decision* **2** (of a person) fond of arguing —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

con·tent·ment /kənˈtentmənt/ *n* [U] quiet happiness; satisfaction: *The cat purred in obvious contentment.* | *the contentment of a well-fed baby*

con·tents /ˈkɒntents‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* [P] **1** [(**of**)] that which is contained in something: *He drank the contents of the bottle.* | *The police emptied her bag and examined the contents.* | *The Prime Minister declined to go into details on the contents of his talks with the Chancellor.* **2** a list in a book saying what the book contains: *Look at the contents (page) before you buy the book.* | *the table of contents* —compare CONTENT

con·test[1] /ˈkɒntest‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* **1** a struggle or fight to gain control or advantage: *the contest for leadership of the party* **2** a competition, esp. one judged by a group of specially chosen judges: *a beauty contest*

con·test[2] /kənˈtest/ *v* [T] *fml* **1** to compete for; fight for: *How many people are contesting the seat on the council?* | *a fiercely contested takeover bid* **2** to argue about the rightness of: *I intend to contest the judge's decision in another court.* | *Her husband has filed for divorce and she's contesting it.*

con·tes·tant /kənˈtestənt/ *n* someone competing in a contest: *Tonight's lucky contestants have already been selected from the audience.*

con·text /ˈkɒntekst‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* **1** the parts of a piece of writing, a speech, etc. which surround a word or passage and which influence or help to explain its meaning: *In some contexts "mad" means "foolish", in some "angry", and in others "insane".* | *He was furious that the papers had quoted his remarks completely* **out of context**. **2** the surrounding conditions in which something takes place: *Look at your own job in the wider context of the whole department.* | *The report should be considered within its social context.*

con·tex·tu·al /kənˈtekstʃuəl/ *adj* of or according to the context: *This word has a special contextual meaning here.* – **~ly** *adv*

con·tex·tu·al·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /kənˈtekstʃuəlaɪz/ *v* [T] to put into context –**-ization** /kənˌtekstʃuəlaɪˈzeɪʃən‖-lə-/ *n* [U]

Con·ti /ˈkɒnti‖ˈkɑːn-/, **Tom** (1945–) a Scottish stage and film actor whose films include *Merry Christmas, Mr Lawrence* and *Shirley Valentine*

con·ti·board /ˈkɒntibɔːd‖ˈkɑːntibɔːrd/ *n* [U] *tdmk* (*often cap.*) a type of board covered in MELAMINE and used for shelves

con·ti·gu·i·ty /ˌkɒntɪˈgjuːɪti‖ˌkɑːn-/ also **con·tig·u·ous·ness** /kənˈtɪgjuəsnɪs/– *n* [U (**to, with**)] *fml* nearness; the state of being contiguous

con·tig·u·ous /kənˈtɪgjuəs/ *adj* [(**to, with**)] *fml* **1** touching; next (to); having a shared border: *England is the only country contiguous to/with Wales.* **2** next to or near in time or order: *contiguous events* – **~ly** *adv*

con·ti·nent[1] /ˈkɒntɪnənt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* any of the seven main large masses of land on the Earth: *the European continent* | *the continents of Africa and Asia*

continent[2] *adj fml* able to control oneself, esp. **a** one's bowels and BLADDER **b** *old use* one's sexual desires – opposite **incontinent** –**-nence** *n* [U]

Continent [*the*] Western Europe not including the British Isles: *He's gone for a holiday on the Continent – Italy, I think.*

▷ USAGE When Americans speak of **Europe** they usually mean both Britain and the **Continent:** *We're going to* **Europe** *this summer.* British speakers who are going, for example, to France or Spain might say: *We're going to the* **Continent**.◁

con·ti·nen·tal[1] /ˌkɒntɪˈnentl◂‖ˌkɑːn-/ *adj* **1** (typical) of a very large mass of land: *a continental climate* | *continental waters* (=the sea round a continent) **2** (of food, ideas, behaviour, etc.) thought to be typical of other European countries, esp. France and Italy. People often use **continental** to describe things they admire and want to copy, such as particular types of food or types of behaviour: *continental food* | *The cafe has tables outside on the pavement – it looks very continental.* **3** [A] (*often cap.*) *AmE* of or in the North American continent: *The continental United States does not include Hawaii.*

continental[2] *n* **1** *old-fash* a person who comes from Europe, but not one from the British Isles **2 not worth a continental** *AmE infml* worthless

continental break·fast /ˌ···· ˈ··/ *n* a light breakfast usu. consisting of CROISSANTS or bread rolls, butter, JAM, and coffee, typically eaten in various European countries – compare ENGLISH BREAKFAST

Continental Con·gress /ˌ···· ˈ··/ [*the*] the law-making body that governed the 13 colonies (COLONY) that later formed the US. It passed the Declaration of Independence.

continental day /ˌ···· ˈ·/ *n* [*the*+U] a school working day, common in Europe but not in Britain, which does not include an hour for a meal but starts and finishes early so that the children can do sports, music, and other activities in the afternoons. There has been some discussion about introducing this in Britain, because it means that in winter children can go home more safely, while it is still light.

Continental Di·vide /ˌ···· ·ˈ·/ also **Great Divide**– [*the*] the chain of high mountains running from North to South in North America. They divide the rivers which flow into the Pacific Ocean from those which flow into the Atlantic Ocean or the Gulf of Mexico.

continental drift /ˌ···· ˈ·/ *n* [U] *tech* the very slow movement of the CONTINENTS across the surface of the Earth

continental quilt /ˌ···· ˈ·/ *n BrE for* DUVET

continental shelf /ˌ···· ˈ·/ *n* a plain under the sea forming the edge of a CONTINENT, typically ending in a very steep slope to the ocean's depths

con·tin·gen·cy /kənˈtɪndʒənsi/ *n* a future event that may or may not happen, esp. one that would cause problems if it did happen; possibility: *We must be prepared for every contingency.* | *We have* **contingency plans** *ready in case there is a flood.* | *contingency reserves*

contingency fee /·ˈ··· ˌ·/ *n* (in the US) the amount of money that a lawyer will collect only if the person he/she is advising wins in court. It is usually a PERCENTAGE of the total amount that the court decides on.

con·tin·gent[1] /kənˈtɪndʒənt/ *adj fml* **1** [F+**on, upon**] dependent on something uncertain or in the future: *The company's future is contingent on the outcome of the trial.* **2** happening by chance; accidental – **~ly** *adv*

contingent[2] *n* **1** a group of soldiers, ships, etc., gathered together to help a larger force: *The army has been strengthened by a large contingent of foreign soldiers.* **2** [+*sing./pl. v*] *infml* a representative group forming part of a large gathering: *Have the Scottish contingent arrived at the meeting yet?*

con·tin·u·al /kənˈtɪnjuəl/ *adj* **1** [A] *often derog* repeated often and over a long period; regular; frequent: *continual demands for improved working conditions* | *continual interruptions* **2** continuing without interruption or break: *They lived in continual fear.* – **~ly** *adv*

▷ USAGE Compare **continual** and **continuous. Continual** usually describes actions (often annoying or undesirable actions) which are repeated over a period of time: *Stop that* **continual** *hammering.* | *I'm tired of the way he* **continually** *complains about everything.* **Continuous** describes things and events which continue without interruption: *The trees formed a* **continuous** *line on the horizon.* | *The plane landed after flying* **continuously** *for 16 hours.*◁

con·tin·u·ance /kənˈtɪnjuəns/ *n* [S;U] *fml* the state or act of continuing: *Continuance of the war will mean shortages of food.*

con·tin·u·a·tion /kənˌtɪnjuˈeɪʃən/ *n* [(**of**)] **1** [U] the act of continuing: *How can you support the continuation of trade relations with such a country?* **2** [C] something which continues from something else: *The Baltic Sea is a continuation of the North Sea.*

con·tin·ue /kənˈtɪnjuː/ *v* **1** [I (**with**);T] to (cause to) go on over a long period or space, without stopping or being interrupted; carry on: *The fighting continued for a week.* | *The road continues for another five miles.* | *If sales continue at their present rate, we will make record profits this year.* | *How long can they continue (with) this damaging strike?* [+*to-v*] *Although they were obviously getting angry, he continued to stare at them.* | *Despite having new owners, the company will continue to be run by its present management.* [+*v-ing*] *He continued writing his diaries until he died.* | *The dollar remained high because of the continued strength of the US economy.* **2** [I;T] to (cause to) start again after an interruption: *After a short break the game continued.* | *The story will be continued next week.* [+*v-ing*] *Are you going to continue gardening after dinner?* **3** [I+*adv/prep*] to remain in a place, state, or condition; stay: *She will continue as spokeswoman for the organization.* **4** [I;T] to say also; go on to say, esp. after an interruption: *The politician continued by saying that he thought taxes should be lowered.* | *"And so", she continued, "the fight for equality must go on."* –see also CONTINUAL, CONTINUOUS, DISCONTINUE

continuing ed·u·ca·tion /·ˌ··· ··ˈ··/ *n* [U] education provided for adults outside the formal educational

system, usu. by means of classes that are held in the evening; ADULT EDUCATION —compare FURTHER EDUCATION

con·ti·nu·i·ty /ˌkɒntl̩ˈnjuːl̩ti‖ˌkɑːntl̩ˈnuː-/ *n* [U] **1** [(**in, between**)] uninterrupted connection; the fact or quality of being continuous: *There's no continuity between the three parts of the book.* **2** *tech* the arrangement of the parts of a film, broadcast, etc., to give the appearance of continuous action **3** *tech* the music, words, etc., that connect the parts of a broadcast, film, etc.

continuity an·nounc·er /··ˈ··· ·ˌ··/ *n* the person responsible for giving the listeners or viewers information between the programmes on radio or television

continuity girl /··ˈ··· ·/ **continuity man** *masc.*— *n* the person responsible for the CONTINUITY (2) of a film

con·tin·u·o /kənˈtɪnju-əʊ/ also **figured bass**— *n* **-os** (in music, esp. of the 17th and 18th centuries) a musical part consisting of a set of low notes with figures showing the higher notes (CHORDS) to be played with them

con·tin·u·ous /kənˈtɪnjuəs/ *adj* continuing without interruption; unbroken: *The brain needs a continuous supply of blood.* | *The government is under continuous pressure to reform the parliamentary system.* | *a continuous line of cars|rise in the population* | *that printer uses continuous paper* (=connected sheets of folded pages) —see CONTINUAL (USAGE) — ~**ly** *adv*

continuous as·sess·ment /·ˌ··· ·ˈ··/ *n* [U] the system of judging the quality of a student's work at every stage of a course, rather than only in exams at the end of the course. This is an important part of the GCSE courses which are now taught in British schools: *"What proportion of your degree course was continuous assessment?" "Sixty per cent."*

con·tin·u·um /kənˈtɪnjuəm/ *n* **-uums** *or* **-ua** /juə/ *fml or tech* **1** something which is without parts and the same from beginning to end: *the continuum of time* | *the space|time continuum* **2** something that changes gradually and without sudden breaks: *a continuum from the lowest to the highest forms of life*

con·tort /kənˈtɔːt‖-ɔːrt/ *v* [I;T (**with**)] to (cause to) twist violently out of shape: *Her face was contorted with anger|with pain.* | *trees with contorted branches*

con·tor·tion /kənˈtɔːʃən‖-ɔːr-/ *n* **1** [U] the act of contorting or being contorted: *the contortion of the body caused by certain kinds of poison* **2** [C] a twisted position or movement: *the contortions of a snake*

con·tor·tion·ist /kənˈtɔːʃənl̩st‖-ɔːr-/ *n* someone, esp. a professional entertainer, who can twist their body into unnatural shapes and positions: (fig.) *Watch out for Sally in an argument – she's a bit of a verbal contortionist!*

con·tour[1] /ˈkɒntʊəʳ‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* **1** also **contours** *pl.*— the shape of the outer edges of an area: *the irregular contours of the British coastline* **2** also **contour line** /ˈ·· ·/— a line drawn on a map to show the limits of the areas at or above a certain height above sea level: *the 500 foot contour* | *a contour map*

contour[2] *v* [T] *tech* **1** to build (a road) along the contours of a hill **2** to show the contours of (an area) on a map

contour[3] *adj* [A] following the contours of the land: *contour farming|ploughing*

con·tra /ˈkɒntrə‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] **1** (*often cap.*) a member of a military organization which fought the Nicaraguan government in the 1980s: *the Contra rebels* —see also IRANGATE **2** someone who opposes another, usu. in a political sense: *Tory contras opposed to Heseltine*

contra- see WORD FORMATION

con·tra·band /ˈkɒntrəbænd‖ˈkɑːn-/ *adj, n* [U] (of or being) goods which it is not legal to bring into a country: *Customs officials seized several tons of contraband cigarettes.* | *to trade in contraband*

con·tra·bass /ˌkɒntrəˈbeɪs‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* a DOUBLE BASS

con·tra·cep·tion /ˌkɒntrəˈsepʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* [U] the act or practice of preventing sex from resulting in the birth of a child, and/or the methods for doing this; BIRTH CONTROL: *Most doctors give advice on contraception.* | *Which method|form of contraception do you use?*

►CULTURAL NOTE In Western countries, contraception is widely accepted and used, but the Catholic church is opposed to its use, and believes only in using the RHYTHM METHOD as a means of BIRTH CONTROL.◄

con·tra·cep·tive /ˌkɒntrəˈseptɪv‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* a drug, object, or method used as a means of preventing an act of sex from resulting in the woman becoming PREGNANT. Contraceptives are usu. obtained from a doctor, except for the CONDOM, which can be bought, e.g. at a CHEMIST's shop: *The percentage of married couples using contraceptives is very high in this country.* —see also CAP[1] (6), CONDOM, IUD, PILL, SPERMICIDE; see CONDOM (CULTURAL NOTE) — **contraceptive** *adj* [A] : *contraceptive advice|pills*

con·tract[1] /ˈkɒntrækt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* **1** a formal written agreement, having the force of law, between two or more people or groups: *a building contract* | *According to the terms of your contract (of employment) you must give three months' notice if you intend to leave.* | *The company has won a valuable contract for the construction of a dam.* | *Is the contract binding (on us)?* [+*to-v*] *Our shop has entered into|made a contract with a clothing firm to buy 100 coats a week.* | *If you don't deliver the goods by Friday we will be breaking the contract|***in breach of contract**. —see also CONTRACT[3] (2), CONTRACTOR, CONTRACTUAL **2** a signed paper on which the conditions of such an agreement are written: *a draft contract* | *to draw up a contract* | *to sign a contract* **3** an agreement (spoken rather than written) in the card game BRIDGE, to win a certain number of TRICKS: *a contract of four spades* | *They made the contract.* **4** *sl* an agreement to kill a particular person, esp. for money; used mainly by criminals: *There was a contract out on him.*

contract[2] *v*

contract in *phr v* [I (**to**)] *esp. BrE* to agree or promise, esp. officially, to take part

contract out *phr v* **1** *esp. BrE* [I (**of**)] to agree or promise, esp. officially, not to take part: *to contract out of a pension scheme* **2** [T] (**contract** sthg. ↔ **out**) ‖ also **farm** sthg. ↔ **out** *AmE*— (of a company, organization, etc.) to arrange by formal agreement to have (a job, services, etc.) done by another company: *Many councils are contracting out services such as garbage collection to private companies as a way of cutting costs.*

con·tract[3] /kənˈtrækt/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) become smaller, narrower, or shorter: *Metal contracts as it becomes cool.* | *In conversational English "is not" often contracts to "isn't".* —see also CONTRACTION **2** [I;T] to arrange by formal agreement: *to contract an alliance* [+*to-v*] *The firm contracted to build the new railway within the year.* | *Our shop contracted with a local clothing firm for 100 coats a week.* **3** [T] *fml* to get or begin to have (something bad, esp. an illness): *My son's contracted pneumonia.* | *to contract a debt|a bad habit*

contract bridge /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] a form of the card game BRIDGE, in which the partnership playing the HAND[1] (4b) make a CONTRACT[1] (3) (=say how many TRICKS[1] (5) they will try to win) and any additional tricks are recorded separately —compare AUCTION BRIDGE

con·trac·tile /kənˈtræktaɪl‖-tl/ also **con·trac·ti·ble** /kənˈtrækt̬bəl/— *adj tech* (esp. of a muscle) that can become smaller: *The heart is a highly contractile organ.*

con·trac·tion /kənˈtrækʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the process of contracting: *the contraction of metal as it cools* **2** [C (**of**)] a shortened form of a word or words: *"Haven't" is a contraction of "have not".* **3** [C] *tech* a very strong and often painful tightening of a muscle, esp. of the muscles around the WOMB during the process of birth: *Come into the hospital when there is a five minute space between (your) contractions.*

con·trac·tion·a·ry /kənˈtrækʃənəri‖-ʃəneri/ *adj* showing or causing contraction, and esp. causing a reduction in business activity: *the contractionary influences of the Chancellor's policy* —opposite **expansionary**

con·trac·tor /kənˈtræktəʳ‖ˈkɑːntræk-/ *n* a person or company that contracts to do work or provide supplies in large amounts, esp. to provide building materials or workers for building jobs

con·trac·tu·al /kənˈtræktʃuəl/ *adj* of or agreed in a contract: *a contractual duty to give three months' notice of your intention to leave* | *contractual obligations* — ~**ly** *adv* : *contractually binding*

con·tra·dict /ˌkɒntrəˈdɪkt‖ˌkɑːn-/ *v* **1** [I;T] to say that (a person, opinion, something written or spoken, etc.) is wrong or untruthful: *If you contradict me once more, you're fired!| Don't contradict your father!* **2** [T] (of a statement,

action, fact, etc.) to be opposite in nature or character to (another one); disagree with: *Their alibis contradict each other.* (=if one is true, the other must be false)

con·tra·dic·tion /ˌkɒntrəˈdɪkʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* **1** [C] a statement, action, or fact that contradicts another or itself: *It is a contradiction to say you support the government but would not vote for it in an election.* | *The prosecution quickly pointed out the contradictions in the defendant's testimony.* | *"Married bachelor" is* **a contradiction in terms**. (=an impossible combination of words) **2** [C;U (**between**)] direct opposition between things compared; disagreement: *Your behaviour is* **in (direct) contradiction to** *your principles.* | *There's no contradiction between the Prime Minister's views and my own.* **3** [U] the act of contradicting or being contradicted: *I think I can say, without fear of contradiction, that this is of vital importance for all of us.*

con·tra·dic·to·ry /ˌkɒntrəˈdɪktəri‖ˌkɑːn-/ *adj* [(**to**)] contradicting; not in agreement: *contradictory reports/desires/advice* —see also SELF-CONTRADICTORY

con·tra·dis·tinc·tion /ˌkɒntrədɪˈstɪŋkʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* **in contradistinction to** *fml* as opposed to; rather than; in CONTRAST to: *plants in contradistinction to animals*

con·tra·flow /ˈkɒntrəfləʊ‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n esp. BrE* an arrangement on a large road by which traffic going in both directions uses only one side of the road, e.g. because the other side is being repaired: *A temporary contraflow is in force on the motorway.*

con·trail /ˈkɒntreɪl‖ˈkɑːn-/ also **vapour trail**– *n tech* a line of white steam made in the sky by planes flying at a great height

con·tra·in·di·ca·tion /ˌkɒntrəˌɪndɪˈkeɪʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n tech* a physical sign or condition which makes it inadvisable to take or continue taking a medicine: *High blood pressure is a contraindication for this drug.* —**-cated** /-ˈɪndɪkeɪtɪd/ *adj*

con·tral·to /kənˈtræltəʊ/ *n* **-tos** ALTO[1] (2)

con·trap·tion /kənˈtræpʃən/ *n infml, usu. derog* a strange-looking machine or piece of equipment: *I don't understand how this contraption works.* | *That's a curious contraption; what's it for?*

con·tra·pun·tal /ˌkɒntrəˈpʌntl◂‖ˌkɑːn-/ *adj* of or using musical COUNTERPOINT — **~ly** *adv*

con·tra·ri·wise /ˈkɒntrəriwaɪz, kənˈtreəri-‖ˈkɑːntreri-/ *adv old-fash or humor* in the opposite way or direction; conversely (CONVERSE)

con·tra·ry[1] /ˈkɒntrəri‖ˈkɑːntreri/ *n* **1** [*the*+S] *fml* the opposite: *They say he is guilty, but I believe the contrary.* **2 on the contrary** (used for expressing strong opposition or disagreement with what has just been said) not at all; no: *"I hear you are enjoying your new job." "On the contrary, I find it rather dull."* **3 to the contrary** to the opposite effect; differently: *If you don't hear (anything) to the contrary I'll meet you at seven o'clock tonight.* | *You may be right; there's no evidence to the contrary.*

▷ USAGE Compare **on the contrary**, **on the other hand**, **in contrast**. Use **on the contrary** to show complete disagreement with what has just been said: *"Does it rain a lot in the desert?" "***On the contrary,** *it hardly ever rains."* Use **on the other hand** when adding a new and different fact to a statement: *It rarely rains in the desert, but* **on the other hand** *it rains a lot in the coastal areas.* Use **in contrast** to show the (surprising) difference between two very different facts: *It is hot in the desert in the day, but* **in contrast** *it's very cold at night.*◁

contrary[2] *adj* **1** [(**to**)] completely different or wholly opposed: *contrary opinions/opinions contrary to mine* | *Contrary to* (=against) *all our advice, he gave up his job.* **2** *fml* (of weather conditions) unfavourable; ADVERSE: *Our sailing boat was delayed by contrary winds.*

con·trar·y[3] /kənˈtreəri/ *adj* (of a person) tending to go against the wishes of others; difficult to deal with or work with; OBSTINATE: *Don't be so contrary!* —**-ily** *adv* —**-iness** *n* [U]

con·trast[1] /ˈkɒntrɑːst‖ˈkɑːntræst/ *n* **1** [U (**with, to**)] the comparison of objects or situations that are dissimilar, esp. to show differences: **In contrast with/to** *your belief that we will fail, I am confident that we will succeed.* | *The coastal areas have mild winters, but* **by contrast** *the central plains become extremely cold.* —see CONTRARY (USAGE) **2** [C;U (**between**)] (a) difference between people or things that are compared: *Such a contrast between brother and sister is surprising.* | *This artist uses contrast* (=between light and dark, or different colours) *skilfully.* | *The contrast between this year's high profits and last year's big losses is really quite striking.* **3** [C (**to, for**)] something noticeably different from something else: *The black furnishings provide an interesting contrast to the white walls.* **4** [*the*+U] the degree of difference between the light and dark parts of a photograph or of a television picture: *Can you adjust the contrast please?*

con·trast[2] /kənˈtrɑːst‖-ˈtræst/ *v* [(**with**)] **1** [T] to compare (two things or people) so that differences are made clear: *In her speech she contrasted the government's optimistic promises with its dismal achievements.* **2** [I] to show a difference when compared: *His behaviour contrasts unfavourably with his principles.* | *sharply contrasting attitudes*

con·tra·vene /ˌkɒntrəˈviːn‖ˌkɑːn-/ *v* [T] *fml* to act in opposition to; break (a law, rule, custom, etc.): *to contravene the parking regulations* —**-vention** /ˈvenʃən/ *n* [C;U] : *to act* **in contravention of** *the law* | *in direct contravention of my instructions* | *repeated contraventions of the rules*

con·tre·temps /ˈkɒntrətɒŋ‖ˈkɑːntrətɑːn/ *n* **-temps** /tɒŋz‖tɑːnz/ *Fr, often humor* an unlucky and unexpected event, esp. a socially uncomfortable one: *There was a slight contretemps when both his girlfriends arrived together.*

con·trib·ute /kənˈtrɪbjuːt/ *v* **1** [I;T (**to, towards**)] to join with others in giving (money, help, etc.): *I contributed (a pound) towards Jane's leaving present.* **2** [I (**to**)] to help in causing a situation, event, or condition: *Various factors contributed to his downfall.* | *This advertising campaign has contributed significantly to the success of the new car.* | *She didn't contribute anything to the discussion.* **3** [I;T (**to**)] to write and send (a written article) to a magazine, newspaper, etc.: *She regularly contributes to the college magazine.*

con·tri·bu·tion /ˌkɒntrɪˈbjuːʃən‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* **1** [C;U (**to, towards**)] the act of contributing or something contributed: *Chekhov's contribution to Russian literature* | *He has made an important contribution to the company's success.* **2** [C] an amount of money given to a cause, CHARITY, etc.: *All contributions, however small, will be greatly appreciated.* **3** [C *usu. pl.*] a regular payment, esp. to the state, to pay for something such as a PENSION, etc.: *Are you up-to-date with your National Insurance contributions?*

con·trib·u·tor /kənˈtrɪbjʊtəʳ/ *n* [(**to**)] a person who contributes: *a regular contributor to our magazine*

con·trib·u·to·ry /kənˈtrɪbjʊtəri‖-tɔːri/ *adj* **1** [A] helping to bring about a result: *His heavy smoking was a contributory cause of his early death.* **2** (of a PENSION or insurance plan) paid for by the workers as well as by the employer —opposite **noncontributory**

contributory neg·li·gence /·ˌ···· ˈ···/ *n* [U] *law* failure to take enough care to avoid or prevent an accident, leading to being held partly responsible in law for any damage, loss, etc., caused: *He drove the car with worn tyres, so he was found guilty of contributory negligence when it skidded across the road and injured two pedestrians.*

con·trite /ˈkɒntraɪt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *adj old use or lit* feeling or showing guilt or sorrow for one's actions: *a contrite apology* —**~ly** *adv* —**-trition** /kənˈtrɪʃən/ *n* [U]

con·triv·ance /kənˈtraɪvəns/ *n fml* **1** [C] something contrived, esp. a machine or apparatus: *a clever new contrivance for milking cows* **2** [C *usu. pl.*] a clever, often deceitful, plan; SCHEME **3** [U (**of**)] the act of contriving or ability to invent

con·trive /kənˈtraɪv/ *v* [T] **1** to cause (something) to happen in accordance with one's plans or in spite of difficulty: *She somehow contrived a meeting with the Queen.* [+*to-v*] *After a lot of difficulty I contrived to attract the President's attention.* **2** to make or invent in a clever way, esp. because of a sudden need: *She contrived a party dress from an old piece of material.* | *I'm sure you'll contrive some way of dealing with the situation.*

con·trived /kənˈtraɪvd/ *adj* unnatural and forced: *I quite liked the story, but I thought the ending was rather contrived.*

con·trol[1] /kənˈtrəʊl/ *v* **-ll-** [T] **1** to have a directing influence over; fix or limit the amount, degree, or rate of; REGULATE: *The pressure of steam in the engine is controlled by this button.* | *Try to control yourself|your temper!* | *officially controlled prices* | *computer-controlled production* **2** to have power over; rule: *At that time the Romans controlled a vast empire.* | *a bad teacher who couldn't control his class* | *state-controlled media* | *The government has a controlling stake in this company.* (=owns more than 50% of it) **3** *tech* to test (esp. a scientific study) by comparison with a chosen standard: *a controlled experiment*

control[2] *n* **1** [U (**of, over**)] the power to command, influence, or direct: *Which party has control of the Congress?* | *George* **took/gained control of** *the business after his father died.* | *I* **lost control** *(of myself) and hit him.* | *You have no control over that dog.* | *in full control of the situation* | *The Vice-President is now* **in control**. (=in command or in charge) | *The government has been overthrown and the country is now* **in/under the control of** *the military.* | *The car went* **out of control** *and crashed.* —see also SELF-CONTROL **2** [C;U (**of, over**)] (a method or system used for) the fixing or limiting of the amount, degree, or rate of an activity; act of controlling: *The government has imposed strict controls on|over the import of luxury goods.* | *wage|price controls* | *an arms control agreement between the superpowers* | *tough methods of crowd-control* **3** [C] also **controls** *pl.*— the place from which, or means by which, a machine, system, etc., is controlled: *The co-pilot is at the controls|at the* **control panel**. | *the* **control tower** *of an airport* | *passport control* | *the volume control of a radio|TV* —see also REMOTE CONTROL **4** [U+*sing./pl. v*] the people who are in control of an activity or operation: *ground control* (=at an airport) | *air-traffic control* | *Mission control has|have lost contact with the space shuttle.* **5** [C] *tech* something used as a standard against which the results of a (scientific) study can be measured: *We used the new fertilizer on 100 plants and compared their growth with that of a* **control group** *of plants that had not been treated.* **6** [C] *tech* (in SPIRITUALISM) the dead person who guides a MEDIUM **7 under control** working properly, esp. after being in a dangerous or confused state; controlled in the correct way: *It took the new teacher months to bring her class under control.* | *Don't worry – everything is under control.* | *They soon brought|had the fire under control.* —see also BIRTH CONTROL

control freak /ˈ· ˌ·/ *n AmE derog sl* a person who cannot prevent himself/herself from trying to control situations and other people

controlled school /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* a British VOLUNTARY school for which the local education authority is financially responsible, and whose managers do not have control over religious education —compare AIDED SCHOOL, VOLUNTARY SCHOOL

con·trol·ler /kənˈtrəʊlərˈ/ *n* **1** a person who directs something: *air-traffic controllers* **2** also **comptroller** *fml*— a government official responsible for money matters

con·tro·ver·sial /ˌkɒntrəˈvɜːʃəl◂‖ˌkɑːntrəˈvɜːrʃəl◂/ *adj* causing much argument or disagreement: *a controversial speech|decision|politician|book* — ~**ly** *adv*

con·tro·ver·sy /ˈkɒntrəvɜːsi, kənˈtrɒvəsi‖ˈkɑːntrəvɜːrsi/ *n* [C;U (**about, over**)] (a) fierce argument or disagreement about something, esp. one that is carried on in public over a long period: *The lie detector tests have been the subject of much controversy.* | *recent controversies surrounding his appointment to the Cabinet*

con·tu·ma·cious /ˌkɒntjʊˈmeɪʃəs‖ˌkɑːntə-/ *adj fml* unreasonably disobedient, esp. to an order made by a court — ~**ly** *adv* —**-macy** /ˈkɒntjʊməsi‖ˈkɑːntə-/ *n* [U]

con·tu·me·li·ous /ˌkɒntjʊˈmiːliəs‖ˌkɑːntə-/ *adj fml* disrespectfully rude and offensive — ~**ly** *adv*

con·tume·ly /ˈkɒntjuːmli, -tjʊmɪli‖kənˈtuːmḷi/ *n* [C;U] *fml* (an example of) disrespectful and offensive behaviour or language

con·tuse /kənˈtjuːz‖-ˈtuːz/ *v* [T] *med for* BRUISE

con·tu·sion /kənˈtjuːʒən‖-ˈtuː-/ *n* [C;U] *med* a BRUISE or bruising

co·nun·drum /kəˈnʌndrəm/ *n* **1** a trick question asked for fun; RIDDLE **2** a confusing and difficult problem

con·ur·ba·tion /ˌkɒnɜːˈbeɪʃən‖ˌkɑːnɜːr-/ *n* a group of towns that have spread and joined together to form an area of high population often with a large city as its centre

con·va·lesce /ˌkɒnvəˈles‖ˌkɑːn-/ *v* [I] to spend time getting well after an illness: *He was sent to a nursing home in the country to convalesce.*

con·va·les·cence /ˌkɒnvəˈlesəns‖ˌkɑːn-/ *n* [S;U] the length of time a person spends getting well after an illness: *a long (period of) convalescence*

con·va·les·cent /ˌkɒnvəˈlesənt◂ ‖ ˌkɑːn-/ *adj, n* (for or being) a person spending time getting well after an illness: *She's still a convalescent.* | *a convalescent nursing home*

con·vec·tion /kənˈvekʃən/ *n* [U] the movement in a gas or liquid caused by warm gas or liquid rising and cold gas or liquid sinking: *a convection heater* | *Warm air rises by convection.*

con·vec·tor /kənˈvektəˈr/ *n* a heating apparatus in which air becomes hot by passing over hot surfaces and then moves about an enclosed space, room, etc., by convection

con·vene /kənˈviːn/ *v fml* **1** [I] (of a group of people, a committee, etc.) to meet; come together, esp. for a formal meeting: *The President's foreign policy advisers convened for an emergency session.* **2** [T] to call (a group of people, committee, etc.) to meet: *He's convened (a meeting of) the council to discuss the campaign.*

con·ven·er, -or /kənˈviːnəˈr/ *n esp. BrE* a member of a committee, etc., whose duty is to call meetings

con·ve·ni·ence /kənˈviːniəns/ *n* **1** [U] the quality of being convenient; suitableness for a particular purpose, situation, etc.: *We bought this house for its convenience: it's very near the shops and there is a good transport service.* | *For the sake of convenience, the library books are separated into different categories.* **2** [C] an apparatus, service, etc., which gives comfort or advantage to its user: *This house has all the latest conveniences.* **3** [U] *fml* personal comfort or advantage: *He thinks only of his own convenience.* | *Please come* **at your (earliest) convenience**. (=as soon as it is convenient for you) | *The arrangement suits his convenience very well.* | *Theirs was a* **marriage of convenience.** (=they married for convenience, and not because they were in love) **4** [C] *BrE* a PUBLIC CONVENIENCE —see also FLAG OF CONVENIENCE; see TOILET (USAGE)

convenience food /ˈ·ˈ··· ˌ·/ *n* [C;U] food which is easy to prepare and can be used at any time, e.g. tinned or frozen food

convenience food store /ˈ·ˈ··· ˌ· ˌ·/ also **convenience store**— *n AmE for* CORNER SHOP

con·ve·ni·ent /kənˈviːniənt/ *adj* **1** [(**for, to**)] suited to one's needs or to the situation; not causing any difficulty: *Will three o'clock be convenient for you?* | *I'm afraid this isn't a very convenient moment to see you.* | *They met in a mutually convenient place.* (=suited to both their needs) | *For the government, the transport strike is politically convenient because it distracts people's attention from wider problems.* **2** [(**for**)] near; easy to reach: *Our house is very convenient for the shops.* —opposite **inconvenient** — ~**ly** *adv* : *conveniently situated in a quiet suburb*

con·vent /ˈkɒnvənt‖ˈkɑːnvent/ *n* a building or set of buildings in which NUNS live: *She entered a convent* (=began to live there) *at the age of 16.* —compare MONASTERY; see also CONVENT SCHOOL

con·ven·ti·cle /kənˈventɪkəl/ *n* (in England in former times) a building used for a secret meeting of NONCONFORMISTS (=Christians in disagreement with the established state religion)

con·ven·tion /kənˈvenʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U] (an example of) generally accepted practice, esp. with regard to social behaviour: *It is a matter of convention that businessmen should wear suits.* | *the conventions of the modern novel|a long-standing convention* —see HABIT (USAGE) **2** [C] (a meeting of) a group of people gathered together with a shared purpose: *a teachers' convention*

▶ CULTURAL NOTE In the US, national conventions for the two political parties are held every four years in order to choose who will fight for the job of president and VICE-PRESIDENT against the other party's CANDIDATE. The parties also decide what their general policies (POLICY) will be: *We attended the national Democratic Convention in New York.* ◀

3 [C] a formal agreement esp. between countries on something that is important to them all: *The countries all agreed to sign the convention.* | *the Geneva Convention* – compare PACT, TREATY (1)

con·ven·tion·al /kənˈvenʃənəl/ *adj* **1** *often derog* following accepted customs and standards, sometimes too closely and without originality: *I'm afraid I'm rather conventional in my tastes.* | *After a few conventional opening remarks, he made a brilliant speech.* | *More and more people are turning away from conventional Western medicine to alternative methods of treatment.* | *conventional clothes/opinions* –opposite **unconventional** **2** (of a weapon, etc.) not NUCLEAR: *conventional weapons/warfare* – ~**ly** *adv* – ~**ity** /kənˌvenʃəˈnælɨti/ *n* [C;U]

conventional ov·en /ˈ··· ˌ··/ *n* an ordinary OVEN, not a MICROWAVE: *This will take 3 minutes in a microwave or 25 minutes in a conventional oven.*

convent school /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* a school, esp. one for girls, that is run by Catholic NUNS and often has severe rules of behaviour that must be obeyed

con·verge /kənˈvɜːdʒ‖-ɜːr-/ *v* [I (**on**)] (of two or more things) to come together towards the same point: *The roads converge just before the station.* | *The two armies converged on the enemy capital.* | *Our interests appear to converge at this point.* –compare DIVERGE –**-vergence** *n* [C;U] –**-vergent** *adj* : *convergent lines*

con·ver·sant /kənˈvɜːsənt‖-ɜːr-/ *adj* **1** [F+**with**] *fml* familiar; having knowledge of: *Before you start to play the game you should make sure you're conversant with the rules.* | *Are you conversant with the facts of the case?* **2** [(**in**)] *AmE* able to hold a conversation: *He's conversant in French but not really fluent.* | *a conversant speaker of Russian*

con·ver·sa·tion /ˌkɒnvəˈseɪʃən‖ˌkɑːnvər-/ *n* [C;U] (an) informal talk in which people exchange news, feelings, and thoughts: *a telephone conversation* | *to have/hold a conversation* | *It's impossible to carry on a conversation with all this noise in the background.* | *This is a private conversation; don't interrupt!* | *In today's programme, three well-known artists are* **in conversation with** (=talking to) *the President of the Academy.*

con·ver·sa·tion·al /ˌkɒnvəˈseɪʃənəl◂ ‖ ˌkɑːnvər-/ *adj* (of a word, phrase, or style) commonly used in conversation: *Business letters are not usually written in conversational style.* | *classes in conversational French* – ~**ly** *adv*

con·ver·sa·tion·al·ist /ˌkɒnvəˈseɪʃənəlɨst‖ˌkɑːnvər-/ *n* a person whose conversation is clever and interesting

conversation piece /·ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* something, e.g. an interesting object, that provides a subject for conversation. It is often said in a joking way of objects which seem very strange or ugly.

con·ver·sa·zi·o·ne /ˌkɒnvəsætsiˈəʊni‖ˌkɑːnvərsɑː-/ *n* **-ones** *or* **-oni** /ˈəʊni/ *It, fml* a meeting for conversation about art, literature, science, etc.

con·verse[1] /kənˈvɜːs‖-ɜːrs/ *v* [I (**on, about, with**)] *fml* to talk informally; have a conversation: *It's difficult to converse rationally with people who hold extremist views.*

con·verse[2] /ˈkɒnvɜːs‖kənˈvɜːrs/ *adj* [A] *fml* (of opinions, beliefs, or statements) opposite; CONTRARY[2]: *I hold the converse opinion.*

con·verse[3] /ˈkɒnvɜːs‖ˈkɑːnvɜːrs/ *n* **1** [*the* (**of**)] a fact, word, statement, etc., that is the opposite of another: *"Buyer" is the converse of "seller".* **2** [*the* (**of**)] *tech* (in LOGIC) a statement made by changing the order of some of the words in another statement: *"It's windy but not wet" is the converse of "It's wet but not windy".* **3** [U] *old use for* CONVERSATION

con·verse·ly /kənˈvɜːsli, ˈkɒnvɜːsli‖kənˈvɜːrsli, ˈkɑːnvɜːrsli/ *adv* on the other hand; taking the opposite point of view: *this newspaper story could damage their reputation; conversely, it will give them a lot of free publicity.*

con·ver·sion /kənˈvɜːʃən‖-ˈvɜːrʒən/ *n* **1** [C;U (**of, from, into, to**)] the act or process of converting; a change from one purpose, system, etc., to another: *the conversion of kilometres into miles/steam into power* | *conversion from coal to gas heating* | *a company that does house conversions* (=changing large houses into several smaller units) **2** [C (**from, to**)] a change in which a person accepts a new religion, belief, etc., completely: *her conversion to Islam/Christianity* | *His sudden conversion to the anti-nuclear movement may make the voters suspicious.* | *to undergo a conversion* | *a deathbed conversion* (=one made just before death) **3** [C;U] *tech* (in RUGBY and American football) the act of kicking the ball over the bar of the GOAL to gain additional points after a TRY[2] (2) or TOUCHDOWN (3)

con·vert[1] /kənˈvɜːt‖-ɜːrt/ *v* **1** [I;T (**to, into**)] to (cause to) change into another form, substance, or state, or from one purpose, system, etc., to another: *Coal can be converted to gas.* | *This sofa converts into a bed.* | *to convert pounds into dollars* | *They live in a converted barn.* (=a BARN changed into a house) **2** [I;T (**from, to**)] to (persuade to) accept a particular religion, belief, etc.: *He was converted to Christianity after visiting Jerusalem.* | *Anne has converted to Catholicism.* | (fig.) *My daughter has finally converted me to pop music.* (=persuaded me to like it) **3** [T] *tech* (in RUGBY and American football) to complete (a TRY[2] (2) or TOUCHDOWN) by kicking the ball over the bar of the GOAL: *You score two points for converting a try.* –see also CONVERSION

con·vert[2] /ˈkɒnvɜːt‖ˈkɑːnvɜːrt/ *n* [(**to**)] a person who has been persuaded to accept a particular religion, political belief, etc.: *a convert to Christianity* | *She's a recent convert to the idea of a European defence policy.*

con·vert·er /kənˈvɜːtəʳ‖-ɜːr-/ *n tech* **1** a machine that converts things, esp. a FURNACE in which steel is made by blowing air through melted iron **2** also **convertor**– an apparatus that changes the form or direction of something, esp. one that changes the form in which information is written so that it can be accepted by a computer

con·ver·ti·ble[1] /kənˈvɜːtɨbəl‖-ɜːr-/ *adj* **1** [(**into**)] that can be converted: *This bed is easily convertible into a sofa.* **2** (of a car) having a roof that can be folded back –see picture at CAR **3** [(**into**)] **a** (of some financial arrangements) that can be changed into something else: *a convertible life insurance policy* | *convertible bonds* (=which can be exchanged for SHARES[1] (2)) **b** (of a type of money) that can be freely exchanged for other types of money: *The dollar is a convertible currency, but the rouble is not.* –**-bility** /kənˌvɜːtɨˈbɪlɨti‖-ɜːr-/ *n* [U]

convertible[2] *n esp. AmE* a car with a roof that can be folded back –see also CABRIOLET

con·vex /ˌkɒnˈveks◂, kən-‖ˌkɑːnˈveks◂, kən-/ *adj* curved outwards, like the surface of the eye: *a convex mirror/lens* –opposite **concave** – ~**ly** *adv* – ~**ity** /kənˈveksɨti/ *n* [C;U]

con·vey /kənˈveɪ/ *v* [T] **1** [(**from, to**)] *rather fml* to take or carry from one place to another: *Your luggage will be conveyed by helicopter from the airport to your hotel.* **2** [(**to**)] to make (feelings, ideas, thoughts, etc.) known: *Our government's anger was conveyed to their ambassador.* | *His music conveys a sense of optimism. He tried to convey how he felt.* **3** [(**to**)] *law* to give the rights to (land or property) to someone

con·vey·ance /kənˈveɪəns/ *n* **1** [U] the act of conveying: *the conveyance of goods by road* **2** [C] *fml* a vehicle: *a public conveyance* **3** [C] *law* an official paper that CONVEYS (3) the right to land or property

con·vey·anc·ing /kənˈveɪənsɪŋ/ *n* [U] the act or process of dealing with all the documents necessary for passing the ownership of property from one person to another: *When I sold my last house, I was so fed up with lawyers that I did all my own conveyancing.*

con·vey·er , -or /kənˈveɪəʳ/ *n* **1** someone or something that conveys: *the conveyer of good news* **2** a CONVEYER BELT

conveyer belt /·ˈ·· ·/ *n* an endless moving belt that carries objects from one place to another, e.g. in a factory so that someone can do the same operation on many different objects: *He took his suitcase off the conveyer belt at the airport.* | (fig., *derog*) *the conveyer belt mentality of most modern artists* –see also CAROUSEL

con·vict[1] /kənˈvɪkt/ *v* [T (**of**) *usu. pass.*] to prove or declare that (someone) is guilty of a crime after a trial in a court: *They were convicted of murder.* | *a convicted rapist* – opposite **acquit**

con·vict[2] /ˈkɒnvɪkt‖ˈkɑːn-/ *n* a person who has been found guilty of a crime and sent to prison, esp. for a long time. If a man is said to look like a convict, it usu. means that his hair is cut extremely short: *an escaped convict*

con·vic·tion /kənˈvɪkʃən/ *n* [C;U] **1** the act of convicting or being convicted of a crime: *This was her third*

conviction for stealing. | *His conviction caused rioting in the streets.* | *They had no previous convictions.* —opposite **acquittal** **2** (a) very firm and sincere belief: *She's a woman of strong convictions.* | *He said he wasn't frightened, but his voice lacked conviction/didn't* **carry conviction**. (=he didn't sound as if he believed what he was saying) | *a conviction politician* (=whose beliefs tend not to change) [+*that*] *She had a firm conviction that she was always right.*

con·vince /kən'vɪns/ *v* [T (**of**)] to make (someone) completely certain about something; persuade: *We finally convinced them of our innocence.* [+*obj*+(*that*)] *They failed to convince the directors that their proposals would work.* | *I'm convinced that she is telling the truth.* | *a convinced Christian* (=sure of his/her faith)

con·vinc·ing /kən'vɪnsɪŋ/ *adj* **1** able to convince: *a convincing speaker/speech* —opposite **unconvincing** **2** certain; clear: *a convincing victory* (=a win by a large number of points) | *They won by a convincing margin.* — ~**ly** *adv*

con·viv·i·al /kən'vɪviəl/ *adj* pleasantly merry and friendly: *convivial companions* | *a very convivial atmosphere* — ~**ly** *adv* — ~**ity** /kən,vɪvi'ælɨti/ *n* [U]

con·vo·ca·tion /,kɒnvə'keɪʃən‖,kɑːn-/ *n* **1** [U] the act of calling people together for a meeting **2** [C+*sing./pl. v*] an organization of church officials, or of members of certain universities, that holds formal meetings **3** the name for GRADUATION (1) at some American universities

con·voke /kən'vəʊk/ *v* [T] *fml* to call together for a meeting: *to convoke Parliament*

con·vo·lut·ed /'kɒnvəluːtɨd‖'kɑːn-/ *adj* **1** *fml* twisted; curved: *sheep with convoluted horns* **2** difficult to understand; COMPLICATED, esp. without good reason: *convoluted arguments* — ~**ly** *adv*

con·vo·lu·tion /,kɒnvə'luːʃən‖,kɑːn-/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] *fml* a fold, twist, or the act of folding or twisting: *a snake's convolutions* | (fig.) *to follow the convolutions of her argument/of the story*

con·vol·vu·lus /kən'vɒlvjʊləs‖-'vɑːl-/ *n* [C;U] a climbing plant, such as the MORNING GLORY

con·voy[1] /'kɒnvɔɪ‖'kɑːn-/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] **1** a group of ships or vehicles travelling together, esp. for protection: *Convoys of lorries took food to the disaster area.* | *Cars should cross the desert* **in convoy** *in case there is a breakdown.* **2** a protecting force of armed ships, vehicles, soldiers, etc.; ESCORT: *The weapons were sent* **under convoy** *because of the danger of enemy attack.* | *a naval convoy*

convoy[2] *v* [T] (of an armed ship, vehicle, soldiers, etc.) to go with and protect (a group of ships, vehicles, etc.)

con·vulse /kən'vʌls/ *v* [T (**with**)] to shake violently, in or as if in convulsions: *We were convulsed with laughter.*

con·vul·sion /kən'vʌlʃən/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] a number of sudden violent uncontrollable shaking movements caused esp. by illness: *He couldn't drive because he sometimes had convulsions.* | (fig.) *We were all in convulsions of laughter.*

con·vul·sive /kən'vʌlsɪv/ *adj*" being, having, or producing a convulsion: *a convulsive movement of the muscles* — ~**ly** *adv*

co·ny, coney /'kəʊni/ *n* **1** [C] *AmE nonstandard* a rabbit **2** [U] rabbit fur as used in making fur coats

coo /kuː/ *v* [I] **1** to make (a sound like) the low soft cry of a DOVE or PIGEON **2** to make soft loving noises: *They all cooed over the new baby.* —see also **bill and coo** (BILL[4]) —**coo** *n*

cook[1] /kʊk/ *v* **1** [I;T] to prepare (food) for eating by using heat; make (a dish): *There are various ways of cooking rice.* | *Do you want your vegetables cooked or raw?* | *I learnt how to cook at school.* [+*obj(i)*+*obj(d)*] *She cooked us a marvellous dinner.* **2** [I] (of food) to be prepared in this way: *Make sure the meat cooks for at least an hour.* **3** [T] *infml* to change (facts, numbers, etc.) dishonestly for one's own advantage; FALSIFY: *She was sacked for* **cooking the books**. (=stealing money by making changes in the accounts) —compare CREATIVE ACCOUNTING **4 cook someone's goose** to get someone into serious trouble: *I could mention where he really was at the weekend to his wife – that'd cook his goose!*

▷ USAGE A modern gas or electric **cooker** (**stove** *AmE*) usually has three parts: the **oven,** the **grill** (**broiler** *AmE*), and the **burners** or **hotplates** on top. The **oven** is used for **baking** bread and cakes, or **roasting** a large piece of meat. The **grill** is an apparatus for cooking by direct heat and can be used, for example, for **grilling** (**broiling** *AmE*) meat or **toasting** bread (making it hard and brown). The gas **burners** or electric **hotplates** can be used for **boiling** food in a pot with water, for **stewing** food (=cooking food slowly in liquid to make a **stew**) or for **frying** (=cooking food in hot fat or oil). **Simmering** is very gentle slow boiling. **Steaming** is cooking food in water but in an inner container so that the water does not directly touch the food. **Braising**, used usually of meat, means cooking slowly in a covered pot with a little fat and water.◁

cook sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] *infml* to invent falsely; CONCOCT: *They cooked up some excuse about an accident, but no-one believed them.*

cook[2] *n* **1** a person who prepares and cooks food: *John's a cook in a hotel.* | *My mother is a really good cook.* — compare CHEF **2 too many cooks spoil the broth** *saying* if too many people are trying to do the same job at the same time, they will not do it successfully —see also CHIEF COOK AND BOTTLE-WASHER

Cook, Captain James (1728–79) an English EXPLORER of the coasts of Australia and New Zealand. He claimed the E coast of Australia for Britain. He also discovered several islands in the Pacific, including Hawaii, where he was killed.

Cook, Peter (1937–) an English COMEDIAN, known esp. for his DRY[1] (9) humour and for his television partnership with Dudley Moore

Cook, Thomas (1808–92) an English TRAVEL AGENT who started a business in 1841 which grew into one of the largest in the world —see also THOMAS COOK

cook·book /'kʊkbʊk/ *n esp. AmE* a book on how to prepare and cook food; COOKERY BOOK

cook-chill /,· '·◂/ *v* [T] *BrE* to preserve (food) by cooking it and then keeping it at a low temperature until it is needed, when it is reheated. This process is used in hospitals and also for READY MEALS stored in shops, and there has been some concern that food produced in this way may not be safe to eat when heating instructions are not followed very carefully.

Cooke /kʊk/**, Al·is·tair** /'ælɨsteəʳ/ (1908–) an American radio and TV broadcaster, born in England. He is known particularly for his long-running radio SERIES, *Letter from America*, which describes American life and people to the British, and also for his frequent appearances on American television.

cooked break·fast /,· '··/ *n* (in Britain) a breakfast consisting of cooked food, usu. including eggs, often together with BACON, SAUSAGES, or TOMATOES. It is usu. followed by TOAST and tea or coffee.

cook·er /'kʊkəʳ/ *n* **1** *esp. BrE* ‖ **stove** *esp. AmE*— an apparatus on which food is cooked —see COOK (USAGE), and see picture at KITCHEN **2** *BrE* a fruit, esp. an apple, suitable for cooking

cook·e·ry /'kʊkəri/ *esp. BrE*‖*usu.* **cooking** *AmE*— *n* [U] the art or skill of cooking: *cookery lessons* | *He's an expert on Indian cookery.*

cookery book /'··· ,·/ also **cookbook** *esp. AmE*— *n* a book on how to prepare and cook food

cook·house /'kʊkhaʊs/ *n* **-houses** /,haʊzɨz/ *old-fash* a kitchen in the open air, where food is cooked in a camp

cook·ie /'kʊki/ *n* **1** also **biscuit** *BrE* ‖ **cooky** *AmE*— *esp. AmE* a flat thin dry cake, sweetened or unsweetened, usu. sold in packets or tins: *We had cookies and coffee.* | *chocolate-chip cookies* **2** *ScotE for* BUN (1) **3** also **cooky**— *AmE sl* a person of a particular type: *a smart/tough cookie* **4 that's the way the cookie crumbles** *humor* that's how things are and one must accept them (used when something unfortunate, unpleasant, etc., has just happened)

cookie cut·ter /'·· ,··/ *n AmE* an instrument which cuts flat cookies into special shapes before baking: (fig.) *cookie-cutter houses lined the street* (=all the houses looked alike).

Cookie Mon·ster /'·· ,··/ [*the*] a character from the television programme *Sesame Street* who appears whenever there are cookies around and eats them all

cookie sheet /ˈ·· ·/ *n AmE for* BAKING SHEET

cook·ing /ˈkʊkɪŋ/ *adj* [A] suitable for or used in cooking: *cooking sherry | cooking oil*

cooking ap·ple /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* an apple that one eats cooked – compare EATING APPLE

cooking oil /ˈ·· ·/ *n* [U] oil from plants, such as SUNFLOWERS or OLIVES, used in cooking, esp. frying (FRY)

cook·out /ˈkʊk-aʊt/ *n infml, esp. AmE* a meal cooked and eaten outdoors

Cook·son /ˈkʊksən/, **Cath·e·rine** /ˈkæθərɪ̯n/ (1906–) an English writer of historical stories, mostly set in the NE of England. She is extremely popular, esp. among female readers.

cooky /ˈkʊki/ *n esp. AmE* a COOKIE (1, 3)

cool[1] /kuːl/ *adj* **1** neither warm nor very cold; pleasantly cold: *a cool day | A cool breeze blew off the sea. | a nice cool beer | As it was a hot day, she wore a cool dress.* –see COLD (USAGE) **2** calm and not easily excited: *If you hear the fire bell, keep cool and don't panic. | We need someone with a cool head.* (=who doesn't get too excited) **3** [(**towards**)] lacking warm feelings; not as friendly as usual: *He seemed rather cool towards me today – I wonder if I've offended him. | The president was given a cool reception when he visited London.* **4** disrespectful in a calmly self-confident way: *And then, as cool as you like, he picked up the contract and tore it in half. | Well, he certainly is a* **cool customer** (=someone who is calm in a disrespectful or admired way)*, and no mistake!* **5** [A] *infml* (used to give force to an expression, esp. to large amounts of money): *He earns a cool half million a year.* **6** *sl* very good: *You look real(ly) cool in that new dress.* – ~**ish** *adj* – ~**ly** /ˈkuːl-li/ *adv* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

cool[2] *v* [I;T (DOWN)] **1** to (cause to) become cool: *We opened the windows to cool the room. | a water-cooled/air-cooled engine | Let your tea cool (down) a little before you drink it. |* (fig.) *Their initial enthusiasm soon cooled.* – compare WARM[2] **2 cool it** *infml* **a** keep calm; calm down!: *Come on, you guys, cool it!* **b** to reduce the speed of an operation or the pressure on someone else: *They know we're keen to get the contract now, so I think we should cool it for a bit.* **3 cool one's heels** to be forced to wait: *He kept them cooling their heels for an hour outside his door.*

cool down *phr v* [I;T (=**cool** sbdy. **down**)] to (cause to) become calmer and less excited: *It took me a long time to cool down after the argument. | I tried to cool her down but she was too angry.*

cool[3] *n* **1** [*the*+S] a temperature that is pleasantly cold: *the cool of the evening* **2 keep/lose one's cool** *sl* to keep/lose one's calmness and self control

cool[4] *adv* **play it cool** to behave in a calm and unexcited way; not lose one's temper: *They expected us to be angry, but we had decided to play it cool.*

coo·lant /ˈkuːlənt/ *n* [C;U] *tech* a liquid used for cooling down part of a machine or apparatus that gets hot –see picture at ENGINE

cool·box /ˈkulbɒks‖-bɑːks/ also **cool·bag** /-bæg/ ‖ **cooler** *AmE*– a container which is specially made to keep food and drink cool and fresh, for use on PICNICS. It is usu. made of plastic and has one or more containers for ice.

cool·er /ˈkuːlə[r]/ *n* **1** [C] a container in which something is cooled or kept cool: *a wine cooler* **2** [C] *AmE for* a COOLBOX **3** *AmE infml* a machine which provides AIR CONDITIONING: *Turn on the cooler, it's hot in here.* **4** [*the*+S] *sl* prison

cool-head·ed /ˌ· ˈ··◂/ *adj* calm; not easily excited: *a cool-headed person/decision*

Coo·lidge /ˈkuːlɪdʒ/, **Calvin** (1872–1933) the President of the US from 1923 to 1929

coo·lie /ˈkuːli/ *n* (esp. in India and some parts of the Far East) an unskilled worker paid extremely low wages: *He treats her like a coolie – she works for next to nothing and never gets a day off.*

cooling-off pe·ri·od /ˌ·· ˈ· ˌ···/ *n* **1** a period before a planned STRIKE[2] when unions and employers have a chance to reach an agreement **2** a period after the signing of some types of sales agreement, when one can change one's mind about buying something: *a thirty-day cooling-off period.*

cooling sys·tem /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a system for decreasing or keeping low the temperature of e.g. an engine by means of air, a liquid, or a gas: *The power station was shut down after a fault was detected in the cooling system.*

coon /kuːn/ *n* **1** *taboo derog sl* a black person (considered extremely offensive) **2** *AmE infml for* RACCOON

co-op /ˈkəʊ-ɒp‖-ɑːp/ *n* (*often cap.*) *infml* **1** *abbrev. for* COOPERATIVE[2]: *My friends and I belong to a food co-op.* **2** (in Britain) **a** an organization of people with similar aims (the **Co-operative Society**) which owns a group of shops. All profits from their sales are given back in one way or another to the members of the society. **b** [C] a shop owned by this society

coop[1] /kuːp/ *n* a cage for small animals, esp. hens

coop[2] *v*

coop sbdy./sthg ↔ **up** *phr v* [T (**in**) *usu. pass.*] to shut into a small space; CONFINE: *cooped up in a tiny room/in prison*

coo·per /ˈkuːpə[r]/ *n* a person who makes barrels

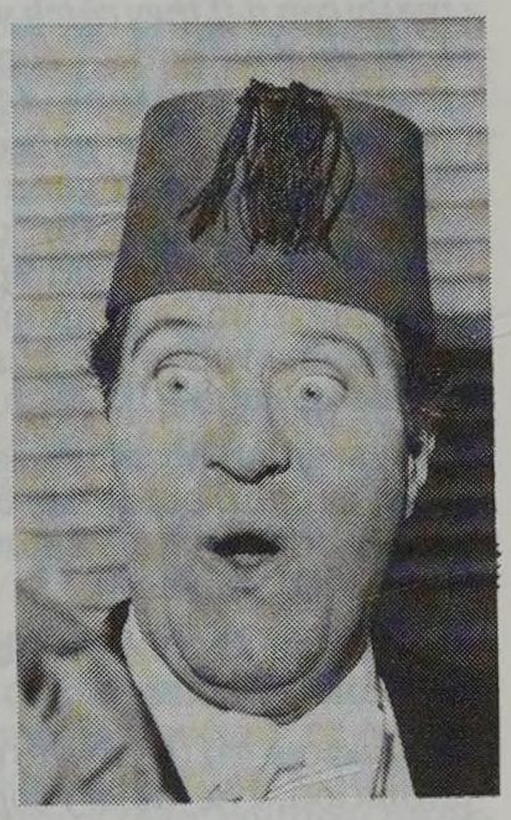
Cooper, Gar·y /ˈgæri/ (1901–62) an American actor who often played strong, silent heroes (HERO), for example in the film *High Noon*

Cooper, Henry (1934–) an English BOXER who held the British HEAVYWEIGHT title from 1959, losing it to Joe Bugner in 1971. He also fought Muhammed Ali for the world title, but lost.

Cooper, James Fen·i·more /dʒeɪmz ˈfenɪmɔː[r]/ (1789–1851) an American NOVELIST who wrote books of adventure about life in the US, including *The Deerslayer* and *Last of the Mohicans*

Cooper, Tommy (1921–84) a British COMEDIAN, known esp. for wearing a FEZ (=a red hat), for getting his magic tricks wrong, and for his CATCHPHRASE, "Just like that!"

Tommy Cooper



co·op·e·rate, co-operate /kəʊ-ˈɒpəreɪt‖-ˈɑːp-/ *v* [I (**with, in**)] to work or act together for a shared purpose: *They'll get the job finished much more quickly if they all cooperate. | The British cooperated with the French in designing the satellite.* [+*to-v*] *Several countries cooperated to build the new plane.* –**-rator** *n*

co·op·e·ra·tion, co-operation /kəʊˌɒpəˈreɪʃən‖-ˌɑːp-/ *n* [U (**with**)] **1** the act of working together for a shared purpose: *This film was produced* **in cooperation with** *Australian TV.* **2** willingness to work together; help: *I need your cooperation in this matter. | The union decided on a policy of non-cooperation with the management.*

co·op·e·ra·tive[1] /kəʊˈɒpərətɪv‖-ˈɑːp-/ *adj* **1** willing to cooperate; helpful: *The management would like to thank the staff for being so cooperative.* –opposite **uncooperative** **2** [*no comp.*] made, done, or operated by people working together: *a cooperative farm/venture* –see also CO-OP – ~**ly** *adv*

cooperative[2] also **co-op** *n* a COOPERATIVE[1] (2) firm, farm, shop, etc., esp. one that is owned and run by all the people who work in it: *a housing/farm cooperative | We decided to set up a cooperative.*

Coo·pers and Ly·brand De·loitte /ˌkuːpəz ənd ˌlaɪbrænd dɪ̯ˈlɔɪt‖-pərz-/ an international ACCOUNTANCY firm

Coo·pers·town /ˈkuːpəztaʊn‖-pərz-/ *n* a town in the State of New York which has the Baseball Hall of Fame (a building which has sports equipment and information about famous BASEBALL players spread out for public view): *A number of players are being admitted to Cooperstown this year.*

co-opt /ˌkəʊ ˈɒpt‖-ˈɑːpt/ *v* [T (**into, onto**)] (of a committee or similar group) to choose, but not elect (someone) as a member by the votes of all the existing members. Sometimes a person who is co-opted is at first not willing to be a member: *I was co-opted onto the board of directors.*

co·or·di·nate[1] /kəʊˈɔːdɨneɪt‖-ˈɔːr-/ *v* [T] to make (people or things) work together, so as to increase effectiveness: *She's a beautiful dancer: all her movements are perfectly coordinated.* | *We used a computer to coordinate the marketing campaign.* | *a well-coordinated response to the enemy attack*

co·or·di·nate[2] /kəʊˈɔːdɨnɨt‖-ˈɔːr-/ *n tech* one of a set of numbers and/or letters that give the exact position of a point on a map, computer SCREEN, etc. —see also COORDINATES

coordinate[3] *adj* [A] *tech* **1** equal in importance or rank; not SUBORDINATE: *coordinate clauses in a sentence, joined by "and"* **2** of or based on COORDINATES[2] —**~ly** *adv*

co·or·di·nates /kəʊˈɔːdɨnɨts‖-ˈɔːr-/ *n* [P] separate women's clothes that are intended to be worn together because the colours match

co·or·di·na·tion /kəʊˌɔːdɨˈneɪʃən‖-ˌɔːr-/ *n* [U] **1** [(**of**)] the act of coordinating (COORDINATE[1]): *careful coordination of our research efforts* **2** the way in which muscles work together when performing a movement: *Dancers need good coordination*/*a good sense of coordination.*

Coors /kʊəz‖kʊərz/ *n tdmk* a kind of beer made by an American company

coot /kuːt/ *n* a small dark grey water bird with a short beak

coo·ties /ˈkuːtiz/ *n AmE infml* disease producing bacteria or bodylice (LOUSE), believed to be caught by touching a person or thing; used esp. by children: *"Sit next to your sister — she doesn't have cooties, you know."*

cop[1] /kɒp‖kɑːp/ *n infml* a policeman or policewoman: *My father's a cop.* | *a cop car* | *little boys playing* **cops and robbers** —see also COP SHOP

cop[2] *v* **-pp-** [T] *sl* **1** *BrE* to catch (someone doing something wrong) **2 cop it** *BrE* to be in serious trouble: *You'll really cop it if they catch you smoking again!* **3 Cop that!** *BrE* Look at that! **4 cop a plea** *AmE* to agree to say one is guilty of a CHARGE[2] (4) so that one can get a reduced punishment: *The police got him for homicide but he copped a plea and got away with 90 days.*

cop out *phr v* [I (**of, on**)] *sl, often derog* to avoid the responsibility of making a difficult decision or acting according to one's principles: *Don't try to cop out (of it) by telling me you're too busy!* —see also COP OUT

cop[3] *n BrE sl* **1 a fair cop** a fair or just ARREST. This phrase is supposedly used by criminals when they have been caught, but it has been used so often that it is now really only a joke. **2 not much cop** not very good: *This film isn't much cop.*

Co·pa·ca·ban·a /ˌkəʊpəkəˈbænə/ a fashionable BEACH in Rio de Janeiro where many young people go

cope[1] /kəʊp/ *v* [I (**with**)] to deal successfully with a difficult situation: *The factory coped very well with the sudden increase in demand.* | *With three small children, she just couldn't cope on her own.*

cope[2] *n* a long loose article of clothing worn by priests on special occasions

Co·pen·ha·gen /ˌkəʊpənˈheɪgən◂‖ˈkəʊpənheɪgən/ the capital city of Denmark. It is a port and industrial centre in the east of the country. There is a well-known old popular song which contains the phrase "Wonderful, wonderful Copenhagen".

Copenhagen, Battle of [*the*] a naval battle between the British and the Danish in 1801. The British navy under Lord Nelson had received orders to leave the area because Danish ships were approaching. Nelson put his TELESCOPE to his blind eye and said "I see no ships". His ships remained where they were, and in the battle that followed the Danes were defeated.

Co·per·ni·can sys·tem /kəʊˈpɜːnɪkən ˌsɪstɨm‖-ɜːr-/ [*the*] the idea, first suggested by Copernicus, that the Earth and the other PLANETS in our SOLAR SYSTEM travel round the Sun —compare PTOLEMAIC SYSTEM

Co·per·nic·us /kəʊˈpɜːnɪkəs‖-ˈpɜːr-/, **Nicholas** (1473–1543), a Polish ASTRONOMER (=person who studies the stars), known for the Copernican system

cop·i·er /ˈkɒpiəʳ‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* a machine for making photographic copies; PHOTOCOPIER

co·pi·lot /ˈkəʊˌpaɪlət/ *n* a pilot who shares the control of a plane with the main pilot

cop·ing /ˈkəʊpɪŋ/ *n* the top row of stone or brick on a wall or roof: *The wall was attractively topped off with some* **coping stones**.

co·pi·ous /ˈkəʊpiəs/ *adj* plentiful; ABUNDANT: *copious tears* | *copious quantities of food* —**~ly** *adv*

Cop·land /ˈkəʊplənd/, **Aaron** (1900–1990) an American COMPOSER of popular classical music

cop-out /ˈ· ·/ *n* an occasion when one tries to avoid the responsibility of making a difficult decision or acting according to one's principles: *She said she was going to tell him what he could do with his job, but in the end she just kept her mouth shut. What a cop-out!*

cop·per[1] /ˈkɒpəʳ‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* **1** [U] a soft reddish metal that is a simple substance (ELEMENT), is easily shaped, and allows heat and electricity to pass through it easily: *copper pipes* | *copper wires* | *The chemical symbol for copper is "Cu".* **2** [C] *BrE infml, becoming rare* a coin of low value made of copper or BRONZE: *He had only a few coppers in his pocket.* **3** [U] a reddish-brown colour: *copper hair* —**~y** *adj*

copper[2] *n infml* a policeman or policewoman

copper beech /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* a large tree with purple- or copper-coloured leaves

copper-bot·tomed /ˌ·· ˈ··◂/ *adj* **1** having copper on the bottom: *a copper-bottomed saucepan* **2** *BrE infml* safe in every way; completely without risk: *a copper-bottomed investment*

Cop·per·field /ˈkɒpəfiːld‖ˈkɑːpər-/, **David** see DAVID COPPERFIELD

cop·per·head /ˈkɒpəhed‖ˈkɑːpər-/ *n* a large copper-coloured poisonous snake found in the eastern US

cop·per·plate /ˈkɒpəpleɪt‖ˈkɑːpər-/ *n* [U] neat, regular curving, old-fashioned handwriting, usu. with all the letters of a word joined together: *The invitation was written in fine copperplate handwriting.*

cop·pice /ˈkɒpɨs‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* a small wood of trees or bushes, esp. one that is specially managed to provide wood for fencing etc.

Cop·po·la /ˈkɒpələ‖ˈkɑː-/, **Francis Ford** (1939–) an American film director best known for the films *The Godfather* and *Apocalypse Now*

cop·ra /ˈkɒprə‖ˈkɑːprə/ *n* [U] the dried flesh of the COCONUT, from which oil is pressed for making soap

copse /kɒps‖kɑːps/ *n* a small wood of trees or bushes

cop shop /ˈ· ·/ *n BrE infml* a POLICE STATION

Cop·tic /ˈkɒptɪk‖ˈkɑːp-/ *adj* of the Coptic Church, or the language used in its religious services

Coptic Church /ˌ·· ˈ·/ [*the*] a branch of the Christian church based in Ethiopia and Egypt

cop·u·la /ˈkɒpjʊlə‖ˈkɑːp-/ *n tech* (in grammar) a special type of verb which connects the subject of a sentence with the COMPLEMENT. In this dictionary copulas are marked [L]: *In the sentence "The house seems big", "seems" is a copula.*

cop·u·late /ˈkɒpjʊleɪt‖ˈkɑːp-/ *v* [I (**with**)] *fml* to have sex. This word is usu. used either about animals, or in a disapproving way, to show that the sex has little emotional feeling. —**-lation** /ˌkɒpjʊˈleɪʃən‖ˌkɑːp-/ *n* [U]

cop·u·la·tive /ˈkɒpjʊlətɪv‖ˈkɑːpjʊleɪ-/ *adj, n tech* (describing) a word or word group that connects other words or word groups: *a* **copulative conjunction** *such as "and"*

cop·y[1] /ˈkɒpi‖ˈkɑːpi/ *n* **1** [C (**of**)] a thing made to be exactly like another: *I sent the letter, but kept a copy for my files.* | *It's not a genuine Michelangelo—it's only a copy.* | *The secretary made a copy of the document.* **2** [C (**of**)] a single example of a magazine, book, newspaper, etc.: *Did you get your copy of* The Times *today?* | *This book has already sold over a million copies.* **3** [U] *tech* written material to be printed: *All copy must be typewritten and sent to the editor by Monday morning.* | *a copy editor* | *clever advertising copy* | *I know it's a very sad story, but my editor thinks it's good copy.* (=interesting news) —see also FAIR COPY, HARD COPY, SOFT COPY

copy[2] *v* **1** [T] to make a copy of: *Would you copy this letter for me, please?* **2** [T] to follow (someone or something) as a standard or pattern; IMITATE: *Street fashion tends to copy the clothes produced by the big Paris designers.* **3** [I;T (**from, off**)] *derog* to cheat by writing (exactly the same thing) as someone else: *Their answers are exactly the same—one of them must have copied from the other.*

copy sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] to write (something) exactly as written elsewhere: *I copied out her notes into my notebook.*

cop·y·book[1] /ˈkɒpibʊk‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* a book containing examples of good handwriting, formerly used in schools as a standard for pupils learning to write —see also **blot one's copybook** (BLOT[2])

copybook[2] *adj* [A] *BrE* completely suitable or correct: *a copybook answer*

cop·y·cat /ˈkɒpikæt‖ˈkɑː-/ *n derog infml* a person who copies other people's behaviour, dress, manners, work, etc., in a completely unoriginal way: *Don't be such a copycat!* | *a copycat crime|killing* (=similar to a famous crime that another person has done)

Cop·y·dex /ˈkɒpideks‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* [U] *tdmk* an ADHESIVE (=sthg. that sticks or causes sticking) made by a British company of the same name

cop·y·ist /ˈkɒpi-ɨst‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* a person who makes written copies

cop·y·right /ˈkɒpiraɪt‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* [C;U] the right in law to be the only producer or seller of a book, play, film or record for a fixed period of time: *Who holds|owns the copyright for|on the book: you, or the publisher?* | *Copying this videocassette without permission would be a breach|infringement of copyright.*

cop·y·writ·er /ˈkɒpiraɪtəʳ‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* a person who writes the words for advertisements

coq au vin /ˌkɒk əʊ ˈvæn‖ˌkəʊk-/ *n* [U] a dish of chicken cooked in red wine with BACON, MUSHROOMS, and onions

coq·ue·try /ˈkɒkɨtri‖ˈkəʊ-/ *n* [C;U] a behaviour typical of a coquette

co·quette /kəʊˈket, kɒ-‖kəʊ-/ *n* a woman who tries to attract the admiration of men without having sincere feelings for them; a woman who FLIRTS —**-quettish** *adj* —**-quettishly** *adv*

cor·a·cle /ˈkɒrəkəl‖ˈkɔː-,ˈkɑː-/ *n* a small light round boat, built like a basket, sometimes used by fishermen on Irish and Welsh lakes

cor·al[1] /ˈkɒrəl‖ˈkɔː-, ˈkɑː-/ *n* [U] a white, pink, or reddish stonelike substance formed from the bones of very small sea animals. It is often used for making jewellery: *a coral island* | *a coral necklace* | *The ship was wrecked on a coral reef.*

coral[2] *adj* having a pink or reddish orange colour: *coral lipstick*

Coral (in Britain) one of a group of BETTING SHOPS

coral reef /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* **coral reefs** a mass of LIMESTONE (=a type of hard rock) formed by coral and/or other living things in warm, SHALLOW sea water and known for its beautiful colours —see also GREAT BARRIER REEF

cor anglais /ˌkɔːr ˈɒŋgleɪ‖-ɔːŋˈgleɪ/ also **English horn** *AmE*— *n* **cors anglais** (*same pronunciation*) *Fr* a musical instrument of the WOODWIND family, like a large OBOE

cor·bel /ˈkɔːbəl‖ˈkɔːr-/ *n tech* a piece of stone or wood built out from a wall as a support for a beam or other heavy object

Cor·bett /ˈkɔːbɨt‖ˈkɔːr-/, **Ron·nie** /ˈrɒni‖ˈrɑː-/ (1930–) a Scottish actor and COMEDIAN known esp. for his part in the British television programme *The Two Ronnies*, in which he performed with Ronnie Barker

cor blimey /ˌkɔː ˈblaɪmi‖ˌkɔːr-/ also **blimey**— *interj BrE old-fash sl* (used for showing surprise)

Corbusier see LE CORBUSIER

cord[1] /kɔːd‖kɔːrd/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a piece of) thick string or thin rope: *I tied the suitcase shut with a piece of cord.* **2** [C;U] (a piece of) wire with a protective covering, for connecting electrical equipment to a supply of electricity **3** [U] CORDUROY: *a cord skirt* —see also CORDS, COMMUNICATION CORD, CORDLESS, SPINAL CORD, UMBILICAL CORD, VOCAL CORDS

cord[2] *n AmE* a quantity of FIREWOOD (=wood cut for burning in a fire): *We go through about three cords of wood in the winter.*

cord[3] *v* [T] to tie, bind, or connect with cord: *a corded bundle of hay*

cord·age /ˈkɔːdɪdʒ‖ˈkɔːr-/ *n* [U] rope or cord in general, esp. on a ship

cor·di·al[1] /ˈkɔːdiəl‖ˈkɔːrdʒəl/ *n* [U] fruit juice which is added to water and drunk: *lemon cordial*

cordial[2] *adj fml* warmly and friendly, but quite formal and polite: *a cordial smile|welcome|reception* —**~ity** /ˌkɔːdiˈælɨti‖ˌkɔːrdʒiˈæ-, ˌkɔːrˈdʒæ-/ *n* [U]

cor·di·al·ly /ˈkɔːdiəli‖ˈkɔːrdʒəli/ *adv fml* **1** in a cordial manner: *You are cordially invited to the wedding.* **2 dislike/hate cordially** to dislike/hate very strongly

cor·dite /ˈkɔːdaɪt‖ˈkɔːr-/ *n* [U] *tech* smokeless explosive powder

cord·less /ˈkɔːdləs‖ˈkɔːrd-/ *adj.* not connected with wires to a supply of electricity: *a cordless phone* | *Is your iron cordless?*

cor·don[1] /ˈkɔːdn‖ˈkɔːrdn/ *n* **1** a line of police, military vehicles, etc., placed round an area to protect or enclose it: *The police immediately put|threw a cordon round the accident to keep people away.* **2** *tech* a fruit tree with its branches cut so that it grows as a single stem, esp. flat against a wall

cordon[2] *v*

cordon sthg. ↔ **off** *phr v* [T] to surround (an area) with a line of police, military vehicles, etc.: *The demonstrators couldn't reach the embassy because the whole area was cordoned off.*

cor·don bleu /ˌkɔːdɒŋ ˈblɜː‖ˌkɔːrdɑːn ˈbluː/ *adj* [A] *Fr* of or practising cooking at the highest standard: *She's a real cordon bleu cook!* | *a course in cordon bleu cookery*

cordon san·i·taire /ˌkɔːdn sænɪˈteəʳ‖ˌkɔːr-/ also **sanitary cordon** *n Fr* a guarded line between infected and uninfected areas to prevent the spread of of the infection: *A cordon sanitaire has been placed around the infected towns.* | (fig.) *The school believes it is drawing a cordon sanitaire around the minds of its pupils.* **2** a line of small states not fighting or supporting either side which separates two enemy powers or two powers which, if combined, may threaten other states: *The Allies created a cordon sanitaire of buffer-states to cut Communism off from Europe.*

cords /kɔːdz‖kɔːrdz/ also **cor·du·roys** /ˈkɔːdʒʊərɔɪz, -djʊə-‖ˈkɔːrdə-/— *n* [P] *infml* trousers made from corduroy: *a pair of cords*

cor·du·roy /ˈkɔːdʒʊərɔɪ, -djʊə-‖ˈkɔːrdə-/ *n* [U] thick strong cotton cloth with thin raised lines on it, used for making outer clothing: *a corduroy jacket*

corduroy road /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* (esp. in the US) a rough road made from logs laid side by side

core[1] /kɔːʳ/ *n* **1** the hard central part of certain fruits that contains the seeds: *I ate the apple, and threw the core away.* **2** [**(of)** *usu. sing.*] the most important or central part of anything: *The Earth has a molten core.* | *The belief in free enterprise is at the core of their political thinking.* | *the core of the problem* **3** *tech* **a** a bar of MAGNETIC metal used in an electric motor to provide a path for the magnetic field **b** a ring-shaped piece of MAGNETIC material used in computer memories **4 to the core** thoroughly; completely: *She's American to the core.* | *The system is* **rotten to the core**. (=thoroughly bad) —see also HARD CORE

core[2] *v* [T] to remove the core from (a fruit)

co·re·li·gion·ist /ˌkəʊrɨˈlɪdʒənɨst/ *n* a member of the same religion

cor·er /ˈkɔːrəʳ/ *n* a specially shaped knife for coring apples

co·re·spon·dent /ˌkəʊrɨˈspɒndənt‖-ˈspɑːn-/ *n law* a person charged with ADULTERY (=sex outside marriage) with the wife or husband of a person wanting a DIVORCE (=an end to the marriage) —compare CORRESPONDENT, RESPONDENT

core time /ˈ· ·/ *n* [U] *BrE* the period during the middle part of the day when an office or other place of work that operates FLEXITIME expects all its people to be working

Cor·fu /ˌkɔːˈfuː‖ˈkɔːrfuː/ a Greek island NW of mainland Greece which is a popular tourist place

cor·gi /ˈkɔːgi‖ˈkɔːrgi/ *n* **corgis** a small dog with short legs and a pointed nose. British people think of corgis in connection with the British royal family, as the Queen keeps some as pets.

co·ri·an·der /ˌkɒriˈændəʳ‖ˌkɔː-/ ‖ also **cilantro** *AmE* — *n* [U] the strong-tasting leaves or seeds of a small plant, used for giving a special taste to esp. Asian and Mexican food

Co·rin·thi·an /kə'rɪnθiən/ *adj* of, like, or typical of the most richly decorated style of ancient Greek building: *Corinthian columns have the leaves of plants, made in stone, around their bell-shaped tops.* —compare DORIC, IONIC

cork[1] /kɔːk‖kɔːrk/ *n* **1** [U] the light springy BARK (=the outer covering) of the **cork oak** (=a tree from Southern Europe and North Africa): *cork tiles on the floor | a cork mat | Cork always floats.* **2** [C] a round piece of this material, or something of the same shape made of rubber or plastic, fixed into the neck of a bottle to close it tightly: *I couldn't get the cork out of the wine bottle – I didn't have a corkscrew.*

cork[2] *v* [T (UP)] to close the neck of (a bottle or similar container) tightly with a cork —opposite **uncork**

cork sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] *infml* to keep (esp. feelings) unexpressed; SUPPRESS: *corked-up emotions*

Cork **1** the largest COUNTY in the Irish Republic **2** the second largest city in the Irish Republic

cork·age /'kɔːkɪdʒ‖'kɔːr-/ *n* [U] the charge made by a hotel or restaurant for allowing people to drink wine which they have brought with them

corked /kɔːkt‖kɔːrkt/ *adj* (of wine) tasting bad because of a decaying cork

cork·er /'kɔːkəʳ‖'kɔːr-/ *n old-fash infml* a very interesting, noticeable, or excellent person or thing; used esp. by UPPER-CLASS people —**corking** *adj*

cork·screw[1] /'kɔːkskruː‖'kɔːrk-/ *n* an apparatus of twisted metal with a handle, used for pulling CORKS[1] (2) out of bottles —see picture at SCREW

corkscrew[2] *adj* [A] shaped like a corkscrew; SPIRAL

corm /kɔːm‖kɔːrm/ *n tech* the thick underground stem of certain plants, from which the flowers and leaves grow in the spring

cor·mo·rant /'kɔːmərənt‖'kɔːr-/ *n* a large black fish-eating seabird with a long neck and a beak like a hook —see picture at WATER BIRD

corn[1] /kɔːn‖kɔːrn/ *n* [U] **1** *BrE* (the seed of) any of various types of grain plants, such as BARLEY, OATS, and esp. wheat: *a field of ripe corn* —see picture at CEREAL **2** *esp. AmE & AustrE for:* **a** MAIZE **b** SWEET CORN —see also INDIAN CORN

corn[2] *n* a painful area of thick hard skin on the foot, usu. on or near a toe. Corns are mainly thought of as an old person's problem: *Don't step on my corns. | a corn plaster* —see also **tread on someone's corns** (TREAD[1] (7))

corn·ball /'kɔːnbɔːl‖'kɔːrn-/ *n* [U] *AmE infml* a story or joke that is CORNY: *"We just watched the three stooges: what cornball!" | The movie was all cornball.*

Corn Belt /'· ·/ [*the*] the area of the middle West US in which most corn (=MAIZE) is grown, esp. Iowa, Illinois, and Indiana as well as parts of other states

corn bread /'· ·/ *n* [U] (esp. in the US) bread made from CORNMEAL

corn chip /'· ·/ *n AmE* crushed corn formed into a bite-sized flat piece and fried (FRY), often eaten as a SNACK, esp. with a DIP[2] (3)

corn cir·cle /'· ˌ··/ also **crop circle**— *n* any of a variety of patterns that began appearing in the fields of farms in England and some other European countries in the late 1980s and the 1990s. No one has offered a completely satisfactory explanation of where the corn circles come from, and some people think they are the work of beings from outside the Earth.

corn·cob /'kɔːnkɒb‖'kɔːrnkɑːb/ also **cob**— *n* the woody central part of an ear of CORN[1] (2). PIPES[1] (2) are sometimes made from corncobs, and in the US **corncob pipes** are thought of as being used by poor people who live in country areas.

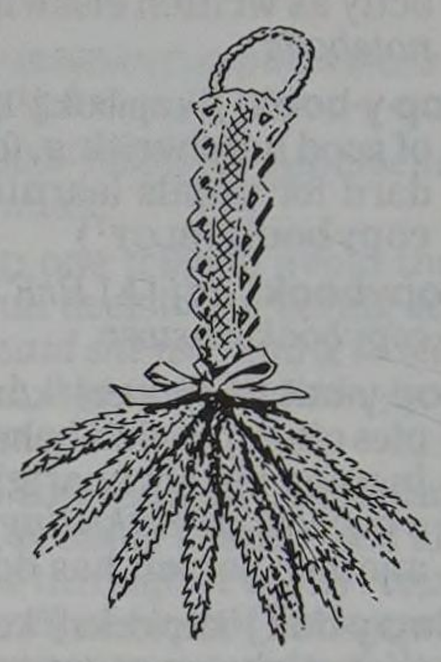
corn·crake /'kɔːnkreɪk‖'kɔːrn-/ *n* a European bird with a loud sharp cry

corn dog /'· ·/ *n AmE* a FRANKFURTER covered in CORN[1] (2) meal, fried (FRY), and usu. served on a stick. Corn dogs are usu. eaten at outdoor shows or sporting events rather than at home.

corn dol·ly /'· ˌ··/ *n* a figure made from STRAW, used for decoration. Corn dollies were originally made in many societies to give thanks for the HARVEST and to wish luck for the next year's crop.

cor·ne·a /'kɔːniə‖'kɔːr-/ *n* a strong transparent protective covering on the front outer surface of the eye —see picture at EYE —~-**neal** *adj*

corn dolly



corned beef /ˌkɔːnd 'biːf ‖ ˌkɔːrnd-/ *n* [U] **1** also **bully beef** *BrE* a kind of pressed cooked BEEF in tins, which is cheap to buy and is sometimes thought of as typical army food **2** *AmE* beef which has been completely covered in salt water and SPICES to preserve it. It has a dark pink colour when cooked and a taste different from ordinary beef: *corned beef and cabbage*

Cor·neille /kɔː'neɪ‖kɔːr-/, **Pi·erre** /pi'eəʳ/ (1606–84) a French poet and writer of plays

cor·ne·li·an /kɔː'niːliən‖kɔːr-/ also **carnelian**— *n* a reddish, reddish-brown, or white stone used in jewellery

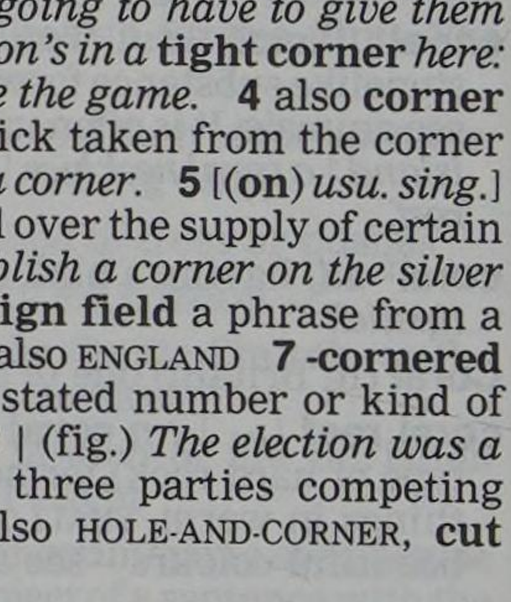
Cor·nell /kɔː'nel‖kɔːr-/ an important American university in Ithaca, New York

cor·ner[1] /'kɔːnəʳ‖'kɔːr-/ *n* **1** [(**of**)] (the inside or outside of) the point at which two lines, edges, surfaces, roads, etc., meet: *I hit my knee on the corner of the table. | The number's in the top left-hand corner of the page. | There's a telephone at the corner of the street. | Out of the corner of my eye, I saw them sneaking out of the room. | They live* **just round the corner**. (=very near) | (fig.) *Politicians are always telling us that better times are just round the corner.* (=coming soon) | (fig.) *The company has been through a bad period but I think we've now* **turned the corner.** (=the situation is improving) —see also CORNER SHOP **2** [(**of**)] a part of the world, esp. a distant one: *People came from* **all four corners of the world** (=from every country) *to see the Olympic Games. | They live in a remote corner of England.* **3** a difficult or threatening position from which it is difficult to escape: *They've forced me into a corner: I'm going to have to give them what they want. | The champion's in a* **tight corner** *here: it looks as if he's going to lose the game.* **4** also **corner kick** /'·· ·/— (in football) a kick taken from the corner of the field: *They scored from a corner.* **5** [(**on**) *usu. sing.*] a position of complete control over the supply of certain goods: *They're trying to establish a corner on the silver market.* **6 corner of a foreign field** a phrase from a poem by Rupert Brooke —see also ENGLAND **7 -cornered** /kɔːnəd‖kɔːrnərd/having the stated number or kind of corners: *a three-cornered hat* | (fig.) *The election was a three-cornered fight.* (=with three parties competing against each other) —see also HOLE-AND-CORNER, **cut corners** (CUT[1] (23))

corner[2] *v* **1** [T] to force (a person or animal) into a difficult or threatening position: *He fought like a cornered animal.* **2** [T] to gain control of (the supply of certain goods): *They're buying all the wheat they can get hold of, because they're trying to* **corner the market**. **3** [I] (of a vehicle, driver, etc.) to turn a corner: *My car corners well even in wet weather.*

corner shop /'·· ·/ *BrE* ‖ **convenience food store** *AmE* — *n* a small shop, usu. but not always on a corner, which may sell almost any small items, such as food, cigarettes, alcohol, and other things needed every day. Many also now have VIDEOTAPES. In Britain many of these shops have been bought by families of Indian or Pakistani origin. In the US they are more likely to be part of a REGIONAL or national group of shops. Corner shops are usu. open for longer hours than other shops.

corner shop



cor·ner·stone /'kɔːnəstəʊn‖'kɔːrnər-/ *n* [(**of**)] **1** a stone set at one of the bottom corners of a building, often put in place at a special ceremony: *The mayor laid the cornerstone of the new library.* **2** something of first importance, on which everything else is based: *Wage control is the*

cornerstone of the government's economic policy. –compare FOUNDATION STONE

cor·net /ˈkɔːnɪt‖kɔːrˈnet/ *n* **1** a small brass musical instrument like a TRUMPET **2** *BrE for* CONE (4)

Cor·net·to /kɔːˈnetəʊ ‖ kɔːr-/ *n tdmk* a type of ICE CREAM made by Wall's and consisting of a CORNET (2) filled with ice cream, chocolate and nuts; there are different FLAVOURS of Cornetto

corn ex·change /ˈ· ·ˌ·/ *n* a place where corn is, or was formerly, bought and sold

corn·flakes /ˈkɔːnfleɪks‖ˈkɔːrn-/ *n* [P] small flat pieces of crushed CORN[1] (2), eaten usu. at breakfast with milk and sugar. It is a standard breakfast food in both Britain and the US.

corn·flour /ˈkɔːnflaʊəʳ‖ˈkɔːrn-/ *BrE* ‖ **cornstarch** *AmE*– *n* [U] fine white flour made from crushed CORN[1] (2), rice, or other grain, used in cooking to thicken liquids

corn·flow·er /ˈkɔːnflaʊəʳ‖ˈkɔːrn-/ *n* a small wild European plant sometimes grown in gardens for its blue flowers: *cornflower-blue eyes*

cor·nice /ˈkɔːnɪs‖ˈkɔːr-/ *n* a decorative border at the top edge of the front of a building or PILLAR or round the top inside edges of the walls in a room

cor·niche /kɔːˈniːʃ‖kɔːr-/ *n* a road built along a coast

corn·i·ly /ˈkɔːnɪli‖ˈkɔːr-/ *adv* in a CORNY way

corn·i·ness /ˈkɔːninɪs‖ˈkɔːr-/ *n* the condition of being CORNY

Corn·ing Ware /ˈkɔːnɪŋ weəʳ‖ˈkɔːr-/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a popular kind of American glass, usually white in colour, which does not break when heated or dropped. It is used for pots, pans, and baking dishes.

Cor·nish /ˈkɔːnɪʃ‖ˈkɔːr-/ *adj* of Cornwall or its language

Cornish pas·ty /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* (in Britain) a folded piece of pastry baked with meat and potatoes in it, usu. for one person to eat

Corn Laws /ˈ· ˌ·/ [*the* + P] (in Britain in the 19th century) laws controlling the price of foreign corn, making it much higher than that produced at home. This protected British farmers from competition and hurt the ordinary people, and after much protest the laws were changed in 1846 –see also ANTI-CORN LAW LEAGUE

corn liq·uor /ˈ· ˌ··/ also **corn whiskey**– *n* [U] *AmE* a kind of WHISKY (alcoholic drink) made from CORN[1] (2)

corn·meal /ˈkɔːnmiːl‖ˈkɔːrn-/ *n* [U] flour made from MAIZE. It is usually yellow in colour and is used to make CORN BREAD and many other foods.

corn on the cob /ˌ· · · ˈ·/ *n* the woody central part of an ear of CORN[1] (2) and the eatable pieces of corn which grow in rows along it. It is popular with British people as a first course in a meal. In the US it is eaten with the main part of the meal as a vegetable, and is often eaten on the Fourth of July.

corn pone /ˈkɔːn pəʊn‖ˈkɔːrn-/ *n* [U] a kind of bread made from CORN[1] (2), eaten esp. in the South

corn·row /ˈkɔːnrəʊ ‖ ˈkɔːrn-/ *n* a hairstyle worn esp. by people of West Indian and West African origin in which the hair is put into small tight PLAITS in lines along the head

corn·starch /ˈkɔːnstɑːtʃ‖ˈkɔːrnstɑːrtʃ/ *n AmE for* CORNFLOUR

corn syr·up /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* [U] *AmE* a very sweet, thick liquid (SYRUP) made from CORN[1] (2) and used in cooking: *Add a tablespoon of light corn syrup.*

cor·nu·co·pi·a /ˌkɔːnjʊˈkəʊpiə‖ˌkɔːrnə-/ also **horn of plenty**– *n* a horn-shaped decorative container full of fruit, flowers, grain, etc., used as a SYMBOL of having plenty of everything: *After she reached the White House, the First Lady would wear only American designers in public, a decision which opened a cornucopia for Nancy. During her eight years there, she would accept designer goods worth more than $1 m.*

Corn·wall /ˈkɔːnwɔːl, -wəl‖ˈkɔːrn-/ a COUNTY in the extreme SW of England which is a popular tourist area. It includes the Isles of Scilly. It is also well-known for having a lot of tin mines in the past. –see also CORNISH and see colour map on page 818

Corn·wal·lis /kɔːnˈwɒlɪs‖kɔːrnˈwɑː-/, **Charles** (1738–1805) a British soldier who led the British forces in the War of American Independence. He was later Governor General of India.

corn·y /ˈkɔːni‖ˈkɔːrni/ *adj infml* having no original, interesting, or exciting qualities; too simple, old-fashioned, and familiar: *a corny joke/story* –see also CORNILY

co·rol·la·ry /kəˈrɒləri‖ˈkɔːrəleri, ˈkɑː-/ *n fml* something, such as a statement or course of action, that naturally follows from something else: *The government wants to spend more on defence: but the corollary of that argument is that they want to spend less on everything else.*

co·ro·na /kəˈrəʊnə/ *n* **-nas** *or* **-nae** /niː/ the shining circle of light seen round the sun when the moon passes in front of it in an ECLIPSE

cor·o·na·ry[1] /ˈkɒrənəri‖ˈkɔːrəneri, ˈkɑː-/ *adj med* of the heart: *coronary heart disease*

coronary[2] also **coronary throm·bo·sis** /ˌ···· ·ˈ··/ *fml*– **-ses**– *n infml* the stopping of the blood supply to the heart, causing a HEART ATTACK: *He had/suffered a massive coronary and died instantly.* –compare STROKE[2] (3)

cor·o·na·tion /ˌkɒrəˈneɪʃən‖ˌkɔː-, ˌkɑː-/ *n* the ceremony at which a king or queen is crowned. In Britain, this is held in Westminster Abbey. The occasion at which the present king or queen was crowned (which in the case of Queen Elizabeth II took place in 1953) is known as **the Coronation**. –see colour picture on page 752

Coronation Street /··ˈ·· ·/ one of the most popular and longest running British television programmes ever, first broadcast in 1960. It is a SOAP OPERA set in Lancashire in the N of England and tells of events in the lives of the working class people who live in a street named Coronation Street. Some of its best-known characters have been Elsie Tanner, Ena Sharples, Bet Lynch, and Ken Barlow. –see colour picture on page 686

cor·o·ner /ˈkɒrənəʳ‖ˈkɔː-, ˈkɑː-/ *n* a public official who holds inquiries into the cause of a person's death, esp. if the death is not clearly the result of natural causes – see also INQUEST

cor·o·net /ˈkɒrənɪt‖ˌkɔːrəˈnet, ˌkɑː-/ *n* **1** a small crown usu. worn by princes or members of noble families **2** any crownlike decoration for the head: *a coronet of flowers*

corp /kɔːp‖kɔːrp/ *abbrev. for:* **1** CORPORATION **2** CORPORAL[2]

cor·po·ra /ˈkɔːpərə‖ˈkɔːr-/ *pl. of* CORPUS

cor·po·ral[1] /ˈkɔːpərəl‖ˈkɔːr-/ *adj* [A] *fml* of the body; physical

corporal[2] *n* an army or air force rank –see TABLE 3, p B3

corporal pun·ish·ment /ˌ··· ˈ···/ *n* [U] hitting people as a way of punishing them, esp. in schools, with a CANE or a leather belt. Corporal punishment is illegal in the US and now, since 1986, in Britain, too. In British schools in the past, boys used to be punished like this much more than girls. They were hit either on their hand or on their BOTTOM[1] (3).

cor·po·rate /ˈkɔːpərɪt‖ˈkɔːr-/ *adj* **1** of, belonging to, or shared by all the members of a group; COLLECTIVE: *corporate responsibility* **2** [A] of or belonging to a corporation: *The company is concerned about its* **corporate image.** (=the way it is regarded by the public) | *The bank has both individual and corporate customers.* | *a key feature of our long-term corporate planning* **3** [A] forming a single body: *The university is a corporate body formed from several different colleges.* –~**ly** *adv*

corporate hos·pi·tal·i·ty /ˌ··· ··ˈ···/ *n* [U] the entertaining of its customers by a company, by giving them special meals, drinks, etc., in pleasant surroundings, e.g. at a theatre or at a sporting event

cor·po·ra·tion /ˌkɔːpəˈreɪʃən‖ˌkɔːr-/ *n* [C+*sing/pl. v*] **1** a group of people who are permitted by law to act as a single unit, esp. for purposes of business, with rights and duties separate from those of its members: *Mary works for a large American corporation.* | *a multinational corporation.* | *the British Broadcasting Corporation* **2** *BrE* a town COUNCIL: *The corporation has/have closed the road.*

corporation tax /··ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* [U] a tax paid by all companies in Britain and the US

cor·po·re·al /kɔːˈpɔːriəl‖kɔːr-/ *adj fml* **1** of or for the body as opposed to the spirit: *corporeal needs such as food* **2** that can be touched; material; physical –~**ly** *adv*

corps /kɔːʳ/ *n* **corps** /kɔːz‖kɔːrz/ [C+*sing./pl. v*] **1** *(often cap.)* a trained army group with special duties and

responsibilities: *the medical corps* **2** *(often cap.)* a branch of the army equal in size to two DIVISIONS **3** a group of people united in the same activity: *the president's press corps*

corps de bal·let /ˌkɔː də ˈbæleɪ‖ˌkɔːr də bæˈleɪ, -ˈbæleɪ/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] *Fr* BALLET (3)

corpse /kɔːps‖kɔːrps/ *n* a dead body, esp. of a person. This word is either used formally, e.g. by police officers or doctors, or in plays and stories about murders. A more usual expression would be simply 'a body'.

cor·pu·lent /ˈkɔːpjʊlənt‖ˈkɔːr-/ *adj euph* (of a person) very fat —**lence** *n* [U]

cor·pus /ˈkɔːpəs‖ˈkɔːr-/ *n* **corpora** /ˈkɔːpərə‖ˈkɔːr-/ or **corpuses** a collection **a** of all the writings of a special kind, or by a certain person: *the corpus of Shakespeare's works* **b** of material or information for study: *The dictionary is based on a corpus of 10,000,000 words taken from books and newspapers in English.*

Corpus Chris·ti /ˌkɔːpəs ˈkrɪsti ‖ ˌkɔːr-/ a city in SE Texas on the Gulf of Mexico – see colour map on pages 1374-5

Cor·pus Christi, Feast of [*the*] a celebration in the ROMAN CATHOLIC church when the BLESSED SACRAMENT (=bread made holy) is carried in PROCESSION. Corpus Christi is Latin for "Body of Christ", the words the priest says to each person when he gives out the holy bread in the church service.

cor·pus·cle /ˈkɔːpəsəl, kɔːˈpʌ-‖ˈkɔːrpə-/ *n* any of the red or white cells in the blood

cor·ral[1] /kɒˈrɑːl, kə-‖kəˈræl/ *n* an enclosed area, esp. in N America, where cattle, horses, etc., are kept

corral[2] *v* **-ll-** [T] to drive (animals) into a corral: (fig.) *They corralled the protesters and kept them away from the President's car.*

cor·rect[1] /kəˈrekt/ *adj* **1** based on or in accordance with the truth or the facts; right; without mistakes: *a correct answer | correct spelling | If these predictions turn out to be correct, the company is going to have a very good year.* **2** following approved or established standards of manners, action, etc.: *correct behaviour | Make sure that these papers are processed according to the correct procedures.| His behaviour in public is always terribly correct: I wonder if he ever makes a joke.* —opposite **incorrect** — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

correct[2] *v* [T] **1** to make or set right: *Correct my pronunciation if it's wrong. | These spectacles will correct her eyesight defect. | They issued a new statement correcting the errors that had appeared in the earlier one.* **2** (of a teacher) to show the mistakes in: *I've been correcting the kids' homework for hours.* **3** *old-fash* to punish in order to improve the behaviour of

cor·rec·tion /kəˈrekʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the act of correcting **2** [C] a change that corrects something: *Teachers usually make corrections in red ink.* **3** [U] *old-fash* punishment: *They sent him to a* **house of correction**. (=a prison)

correctional fa·cil·i·ty /·ˈ··· ·ˌ···/ *n AmE tech or euph* prison

correction fluid /·ˈ·· ˌ··/ also **correcting fluid**— *n* [U] a special white liquid in a bottle or a pen which is put over a written mistake so that one can write in that place again

cor·rec·ti·tude /kəˈrektɪtjuːd‖-tuːd/ *n* [U] *fml or pomp* correctness of behaviour

cor·rec·tive /kəˈrektɪv/ *adj, n fml* (something) intended to correct: *corrective measures|treatment* — **~ly** *adv*

cor·rel·ate[1] /ˈkɒrɪleɪt‖ˈkɔː-, ˈkɑː-/ *v* [I;T (**with**)] to (show to) have a close shared relationship or connection of cause and effect: *They are trying to find out if these behaviour patterns correlate with particular changes in diet.| Smoking and lung cancer are closely correlated.*

cor·rel·ate[2] /ˈkɒrɪlɪt‖ˈkɔː-, ˈkɑː-/ *n* either of two things that correlate with each other

cor·re·la·tion /ˌkɒrɪˈleɪʃən‖ˌkɔː-, ˌkɑː-/ *n* **1** [C (**between**)] a shared relationship or connection of cause and effect: *a high correlation between unemployment and crime* **2** [U (**of**)] *fml* the act of correlating

cor·rel·a·tive /kəˈrelətɪv/ *adj, n* **1** *fml* (any of two or more things that are) naturally related **2** *tech* (either of two words) regularly used together but rarely used next to each other: *"Either" and "or" are* **correlative conjunctions**.

cor·re·spond /ˌkɒrɪˈspɒnd‖ˌkɔːrɪˈspɑːnd, ˌkɑː-/ *v* [I] **1** [(**with, to**)] to be in agreement; match; be CONSISTENT (with) or EQUIVALENT (to): *The problem is that what she says doesn't correspond with what she does. | The contents of the box must correspond to the description on the label.* **2** [(**with**)] to exchange letters regularly. This word is used of personal letters but is more formal than saying that people wrote to each other: *Janet and Bob corresponded (with each other) for many years.*

cor·re·spon·dence /ˌkɒrɪˈspɒndəns‖ˌkɔːrɪˈspɑːn-, ˌkɑː-/ *n* [S;U (**between, with**)] **1** the act of exchanging letters **2** the letters exchanged between people: *The library bought all the correspondence between Queen Victoria and her daughters.* **3** a state or case of corresponding; agreement between particular things

correspondence course /··ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* a set of lessons, often leading to a degree, in which the student works at home and receives lessons by mail: *I'm doing|taking a correspondence course in business studies.*

cor·re·spon·dent[1] /ˌkɒrɪˈspɒndənt‖ˌkɔːrɪˈspɑːn-, ˌkɑː-/ *n* **1** a person with whom another person exchanges letters regularly **2** someone employed by a newspaper, television, etc., to report news from a particular area or on a particular subject: *a war correspondent | Here is a report from our environment correspondent.* —compare CORESPONDENT

correspondent[2] *adj* [(**with**)] *fml* in agreement; matching; corresponding: *The election result was correspondent with the government's wishes in the matter.*

cor·re·spon·ding /ˌkɒrɪˈspɒndɪŋ◂‖ˌkɔːrɪˈspɑːn-, ˌkɑː-/ *adj* [A] matching or related: *There has been a decline in the value of the pound and a corresponding increase in the strength of the dollar. | Profits for the first three months are 50% higher than in the corresponding period of last year.* — **~ly** *adv*

cor·ri·dor /ˈkɒrɪdɔːr‖ˈkɔːrɪdər, ˈkɑː-/ *n* **1** a passage, esp. between two rows of rooms: *Room 101 is at the end of the corridor. | a corridor train* | (fig.) *the* **corridors of power** (=the places where government decisions are made) **2** a narrow piece of land (or air space) that passes through a foreign country: *the Polish Corridor (to the sea)* —see also NORTHEAST CORRIDOR

cor·ri·gen·dum /ˌkɒrɪˈdʒendəm‖ˌkɔː-, ˌkɑː-/ *n* **-da** /də/ *tech* something (to be) made correct, esp. in a printed book

cor·rob·o·rate /kəˈrɒbəreɪt‖kəˈrɑː-/ *v* [T] to support or strengthen (a statement, opinion, idea, etc.) by fresh information or proof: *Someone who saw the accident corroborated the driver's statement.* —**rator** *n* —**ration** /kəˌrɒbəˈreɪʃən ‖ kəˌrɑː-/ n [U] —**rative** /kəˈrɒbərətɪv ‖ kəˈrɑːbəreɪtɪv/ *adj*: *corroborative evidence*

cor·rode /kəˈrəʊd/ *v* [I;T (AWAY)] to (cause to) become worn away or be gradually destroyed, esp. by chemical action over a long period: *Water corrodes metal. | The machine doesn't work because the electrical contacts have corroded.* —compare ERODE

cor·ro·sion /kəˈrəʊʒən/ *n* [U] **1** the process of corroding: *If any of the acid leaks it may cause corrosion.* | (fig.) *the corrosion of moral standards* **2** a substance, such as RUST, produced by this process: *corrosion on the car body*

cor·ro·sive /kəˈrəʊsɪv/ *adj* **1** able to corrode: *Danger! Corrosive material!* —opposite **noncorrosive** **2** gradually weakening or destroying society, a person's feelings, etc.: *the corrosive influence of mass unemployment | corrosive feelings of bitterness* **3** (of language) very fierce: *a corrosive attack on the government* — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

cor·ru·gated /ˈkɒrəgeɪtɪd‖ˈkɔː-, ˈkɑː-/ *adj* formed in rows of wavelike folds: *Sheets of* **corrugated iron** *are often used for roofs and fences.* | (fig.) *a corrugated brow*

cor·ru·ga·tion /ˌkɒrəˈgeɪʃən‖ˌkɔː-, ˌkɑː-/ *n* a fold in a corrugated surface

cor·rupt[1] /kəˈrʌpt/ *adj* **1** practising or marked by the dishonest and improper use of one's power or position, e.g. to make money illegally: *a corrupt judge | corrupt officials in the passport office | the corrupt use of public money* **2** morally wicked: *corrupt pornographic writings* **3** containing mistakes; different from the original: *a corrupt text* — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

corrupt[2] *v* [T] **1** to cause to become morally bad; change from good to bad: *Do you think young people are corrupted by big city life? | corrupted by power* **2** to change the

original form of (a language, set of teachings, etc.) in a bad way: *Has English been corrupted by the introduction of foreign words?* –see also **power tends to corrupt**...(POWER[1] (13)) –~**ible** *adj* –~**ibility** /kə,rʌptə'bɪlətɪ/ *n* [U]

cor·rup·tion /kə'rʌpʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the act or process of corrupting **2** [U] **a** dishonesty, esp. by people in positions of power: *The new military rulers said that the previous government had been* **riddled with** (=full of) **corruption.** **b** immoral behaviour; being corrupt: *the corruption of the ancient Roman court* **3** [C (**of**) *usu. sing.*] a form of something, such as a word, that is changed from its correct or original form: *The word "Thursday" is a corruption of Thor's Day.*

cor·sage /kɔː'sɑːʒ‖kɔːr-/ *n* a small bunch of flowers worn by a woman at the neck or waist, usu. only on very formal occasions –compare NOSEGAY

cor·sair /'kɔːseəʳ‖'kɔːr-/ *n* a PIRATE or pirate ship from N Africa that used to stop and rob ships in former times

corse /kɔːs‖kɔːrs/ *n old use or poet for* CORPSE

corse·let /'kɔːslət‖'kɔːr-/ *n* a piece of armour worn in former times on the upper part of the body, but not usu. covering the arms

cor·set /'kɔːsət‖'kɔːr-/ also **corsets** *pl.– BrE* ‖ **girdle** *AmE* – *n* a very tight-fitting article of UNDERWEAR worn, esp. by women, to give shape to the waist and HIPS. Corsets are now worn only by older women. –~**ed** *adj*

Cor·si·ca /'kɔːsɪkə‖'kɔːr-/ a large island in the Mediterranean Sea belonging to France. It is very mountainous. –**-can** *adj, n*: *Napoleon was a Corsican.* | *Corsican wines*

cor·tege , -tège /kɔː'teɪʒ‖kɔːr'teʒ/ *n fml* a procession following the dead body at a funeral, usu. the funeral of a very important person

Cor·tés /'kɔːtez‖kɔːr'tez/, **Her·nán** /hɜː'næn‖hɜːr-/ or **Her·nan·do** /hɜː'nændəʊ‖hɜːr-/ (1485–1547) a Spanish adventurer who conquered (CONQUER) the Aztec Empire in Mexico

cor·tex /'kɔːteks‖'kɔːr-/ *n* **-tices** /təsiːz/ *tech* the outer covering of something, esp. of the brain –**-tical** /'kɔːtɪkəl‖'kɔːr-/ *adj*

cor·ti·sone /'kɔːtəzəʊn‖'kɔːrtəsəʊn/ *n* [U] a powerful substance used esp. in treating RHEUMATIC diseases

co·run·dum /kə'rʌndəm/ *n* [U] a very hard mineral used in powder form for polishing and sharpening tools

cor·us·cate /'kɒrəskeɪt‖'kɔː-, 'kɑː-/ *v* [I] *fml* to flash; SPARKLE: *a coruscating jewel* | (fig.) *coruscating wit* –**-cation** /,kɒrə'skeɪʃən‖,kɔː-, ,kɑː-/ *n* [U]

cor·vette /kɔː'vet‖kɔːr-/ *n tech* a small fast warship used for protecting other ships from attack

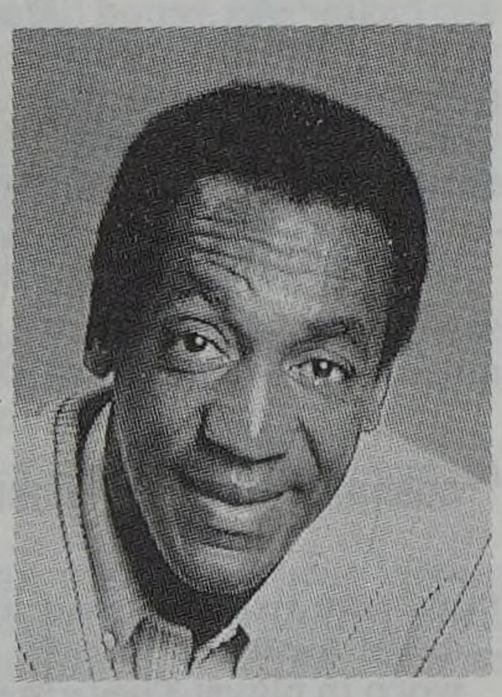
cos[1] /kəz/ *conj nonstandard* because –see also COS LETTUCE

cos[2] /kɒs‖kɑːs/ *abbrev. for:* COSINE

Co·sa Nos·tra /,kəʊzə 'nɒstrə‖,kəʊsə 'nəʊs-/ the US branch of the MAFIA

Cos·by /'kɒzbi‖'kɑːz-/, **Bill** (1937–) an American actor and COMEDIAN known esp. for the television SERIES *The Cosby Show* in the 1980s and for being the first black person to get an important role in a regular television series in the 1960s

Bill Cosby



Cosby Show /'·· ,·/, **The** an American television COMEDY SERIES about a black American family –see colour picture on page 686

Co·sell /'kəʊsel/, **How·ard** /'haʊəd‖-ərd/ (1920–) an American sports COMMENTATOR (=someone who tells people about a sports game as it is happening) who used to cover most football games on television. Cosell talked a lot and had strong opinions.

cosh[1] /kɒʃ‖kɑːʃ/ *BrE* ‖ **blackjack, sap** *AmE– n infml* a short heavy metal pipe or filled rubber tube used as a weapon: *They were arrested for possession of two guns and a cosh.*

cosh[2] *v* [T] *infml, esp. BrE* to hit with a cosh

Co·sì fan tut·te /,kəʊsi fæn 'tʊti‖kəʊ,siː fɑːn 'tʊteɪ/ an OPERA by Mozart

co·sig·na·to·ry /,kəʊ'sɪgnətəri‖-tɔːri/ *n fml* a person signing together with others, often for an organization, country, etc.: *Britain, France, and Germany were all cosignatories of/to the agreement.*

co·si·ly /'kəʊzəlɪ/ *adv* in a COSY[1] way

co·si·ness /'kəʊzɪnəs/ *n* [U] the condition of being COSY[1]

co·sine /'kəʊsaɪn/ *n tech* the FRACTION (1) calculated for an angle by dividing the length of the side next to it in a RIGHT-ANGLED TRIANGLE by the length of the side opposite the right angle –compare SINE, TANGENT

cos let·tuce /,kɒs 'letəs‖,kɑːs-, ,kəʊs-/ *BrE* ‖ **romaine lettuce** *esp. AmE– n* a LETTUCE with long leaves

cos·met·ic[1] /kɒz'metɪk‖kɑːz-/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] any substance, such as a face-cream or body-powder, that is intended to make the skin or hair more beautiful: *They sell lipstick, hair gel, and a whole range of other cosmetics.* | *the cosmetics industry* | *cruelty-free cosmetics* –see also MAKE-UP (1)

cosmetic[2] *adj* **1** [A] intended to make the skin or hair more beautiful: *a cosmetic cream* **2** *derog* dealing only with the outside appearance rather than the central part of something; SUPERFICIAL: *These changes in the law are purely cosmetic and do nothing to deal with the real problem.* | *a few cosmetic repairs to the house*

cos·me·ti·cian /,kɒzmə'tɪʃən‖,kɑːz-/ *n* a person professionally trained in the use of cosmetics

cosmetic sur·ge·ry /·,·· '···/ *n* [U] medical operations performed to change a person's appearance, e.g. to improve the shape of their nose or to enlarge their breasts. This is becoming increasingly popular in Britain, although less so than in the US, and people are more open about having this kind of surgery, but it is expensive and still seen as a sign of VANITY by most people –compare PLASTIC SURGERY

cos·mic /'kɒzmɪk‖'kɑːz-/ *adj* of or found in space or the universe: *Planets were formed out of cosmic dust.* | (fig.) *a scandal of cosmic* (=extremely large) *proportions* – ~**ally** /kli/ *adv*

cosmic ray /,·· '·/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] a stream of RADIATION reaching the Earth from outer space

Cos·mo /'kɒzməʊ‖'kɑː-/ *infml for* COSMOPOLITAN magazine

cos·mog·o·ny /kɒz'mɒgəni‖kɑːz'mɑː-/ *n* [C;U] *fml* (a set of ideas about) the origin of the universe: *primitive cosmogonies*

cos·mol·o·gy /kɒz'mɒlədʒi‖kɑːz'mɑː-/ *n* [U] the science of the origin and structure of the universe, esp. as studied in ASTRONOMY

cos·mo·naut /'kɒzmənɔːt‖'kɑːzmənɔːt, -nɑːt/ *n* a Soviet ASTRONAUT

cos·mo·pol·i·tan[1] /,kɒzmə'pɒlətən ◂ ‖ ,kɑːzmə'pɑː-/ *adj* **1** consisting of people from many different parts of the world: *London is a very cosmopolitan city* **2** (of a person, belief, opinion, etc.) not narrow-minded; showing wide experience of different people and places: *She has a very cosmopolitan outlook on life.* **3** *tech* (of an animal or plant) existing in most parts of the world

cosmopolitan[2] *n usu. apprec* a person who has travelled widely and feels equally at home everywhere

Cosmopolitan also **Cosmo** *infml–* a monthly magazine for women produced in both Britain and the US in different VERSIONS. In Britain it has an image which is intended to attract the more modern, young, independent, and COSMOPOLITAN[1] (2) reader. In the US it is very often criticized by FEMINISTS for being old-fashioned in its views of women and men.

cos·mos /'kɒzmɒs‖'kɑːzməs/ *n* [*the*+S] the whole universe considered as an ordered system

Cosmos a British travel company known for arranging bus tours and reasonably-priced holidays abroad

Cos·sack /'kɒsæk‖'kɑːs-/ *n* a member of a people who lived on the plains of S Russia and the Ukraine, famous for their skill in riding horses, their fierce fighting, and their characteristic way of dancing with the knees bent, the body low, and the arms folded in front of the body. A small number still exist. –**Cossack** *adj*

cos·set /ˈkɒsɨt‖ˈkɑː-/ *v* **-tt-** [T] to pay a great deal of attention to making (a person) comfortable and happy; PAMPER: *These farmers have been cosseted for years by generous government subsidies.*

cost[1] /kɒst‖kɔːst/ *n* **1** [C] the amount of money paid or needed for buying, doing, or producing something: *the high cost of renting a house in central London | The students are given £150 a year to cover the cost of books and stationery. | High production costs lead to high prices in the shops. | The cost of policing the demonstration will be met|borne by the local council. | The dealer said he would sell me the car* **at cost.** (=at the same price he paid) **2** [C;U] something needed, given, or lost, in order to obtain something: *He saved the children from the fire at the cost of his own life.* (=but he died) | *We must avoid war* **at all costs/whatever the cost.** (=it is extremely important to avoid war) **3 to one's cost** from one's own unpleasant experience: *As I learned to my cost when I was ill in New York, you should always take out medical insurance before you go abroad.* —see also COSTS, **count the cost** (COUNT[1]); see COST[2] (USAGE)

cost[2] *v* **cost 1** [L (+*obj*)+*n*] to have (an amount of money) as a price: *a powerful new computer costing over $10,000 | "How much do these shoes cost?" "They cost £30." | It's costing me a small fortune* (=a lot) *to send the children on holiday. | Champagne* **costs the earth.** (=is very expensive) | *High unemployment costs the government billons of pounds in lost taxes.* | (fig.) *The mistake cost him his job.* **2** [T *no pass.*] *infml* to be expensive for (someone): *It will cost you to go by train; why not go by bus?* **3** [T] (*past tense & participle* **costed**) to calculate the price to be charged for (a job, someone's time, etc.): *The builder costed the job at £150.* **4 cost an arm and a leg** to have a very high or too high price

▷ USAGE Compare **price, cost,** and **charge.** When talking about the money needed to buy a particular object, the usual word is **price:** *What is the* **price** *of this watch?* **Cost** (*n*) is like **price,** but is used less for objects, and more **a** for services: *the* **cost** *of having the house painted* **b** for general things: *the* **cost** *of living | the* **cost** *of food.* The amount of money you pay for something is what it **costs** (*v*) you: *How much did this watch* **cost** *you?* The person who is selling goods or services to you **charges** you for them: *How much did he* **charge** *you for repairing the car?* **Charge** (*n*) means "a sum of money demanded, especially for allowing someone to do something": *There will be a small* **charge** *for admission to the museum.*◁

Cos·ta /ˈkɒstə‖ˈkəʊs-/ *n BrE humor* (used, esp. in newspapers, when describing a place on the coast that has particular characteristics): *the Costa del crime | Costa del Rip-off*

Costa Bra·va /ˌkɒstə ˈbrɑːvə‖ˌkəʊs-/ [*the*] the part of the Mediterranean coast in E Spain. It is a popular place for young British people to go on holiday as it is possible to go there very cheaply.

Costa del Sol /ˌkɒstə del ˈsɒl‖ˌkəʊstə del ˈsəʊl/ [*the*] the part of the Mediterranean coast in S Spain. It is a popular place for British people to go on holiday, but also people often think of the Costa del Sol as a place where successful criminals go to live.

co-star[1] /ˈkəʊ stɑːr/ *n* a famous actor or actress who appears together with another famous actor or actress in a film or play

co-star[2] *v* **-rr-** **1** [I (**with**)] to appear as a co-star: *It's the first time she's co-starred with Robert Redford.* **2** [T] (of a film or play) to have as co-stars: *"Gone with the Wind", the classic movie co-starring Vivien Leigh and Clark Gable*

Cos·ta Ri·ca /ˌkɒstə ˈriːkə‖ˌkəʊ-/ a country in Central America; capital San José; population 2,922,000 (1989) —**-can** *n, adj*

cost/ben·e·fit a·nal·y·sis /ˌ· ˈ··· ·ˌ···/ *n* a system of determining a course of action by examining various possibilities with regard to what they will cost and what BENEFIT they will bring. The course of action which will bring the greatest benefit at the smallest cost is seen as the most desirable.

cost cen·tre /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a part of a business, such as a department or a group of people or machines, for which costs can be worked out and controlled

cost-ef·fec·tive /ˈ· ·ˌ··/ *adj* bringing the best possible profits or advantages for the lowest possible cost: *They discovered that it was more cost-effective to import the engines from Spain than to manufacture them here.* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

Cos·tel·lo /kɒˈsteləʊ‖kɑː-/, **El·vis** /ˈelvɨs/ (1954–) a British popular music singer and songwriter, whose best-known song is *Oliver's Army*

cos·ter·mon·ger /ˈkɒstəˌmʌŋgəʳ‖ˈkɑːstərˌmɑːŋ-, -ˌmʌŋ-/ also **coster** /ˈkɒstəʳ‖ˈkɑː-/— *n BrE* a person who sells fruit and vegetables from a cart in the street, esp. in London

cost·ing /ˈkɒstɪŋ‖ˈkɔːs-/ *n* [U] the process of measuring and looking at the cost of a business activity, product, department, etc.

cost·ive /ˈkɒstɪv‖ˈkɑː-/ *adj rare* suffering from or causing CONSTIPATION

cost·ly /ˈkɒstli‖ˈkɔːstli/ *adj* **1** *rather fml* costing a lot of money, esp. when this is regarded as unreasonable or unnecessary: *Selling your house can be a costly and time-consuming business. | a costly delay* **2** gained or won at a great loss: *the costliest war in our history* (=with greatest loss of life) —**-liness** *n* [U]

Cost·ner /ˈkɒstnəʳ‖ˈkɑː-/, **Kev·in** /ˈkevɨn/ (1955–) an American actor and DIRECTOR whose films include *Dances with Wolves, Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves,* and *JFK*

cost of liv·ing /ˌ· · ˈ··/ *n* [(*the*) S] the cost of buying the goods and services one needs to live at an average standard of comfort: *The cost of living has gone up 5% in the last year, so we asked for a wage increase of 7%.* —compare STANDARD OF LIVING

cost-of-liv·ing in·dex /ˌ· · ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a number based on rising and/or falling prices of goods, services, etc. usu. over a year, which shows whether the cost of living has gone up or down. Since the Second World War many employers and unions have agreed to use it as a guideline for wage deals. Other payments such as SOCIAL SECURITY and some PENSIONS are also based on it. —compare RETAIL PRICE INDEX

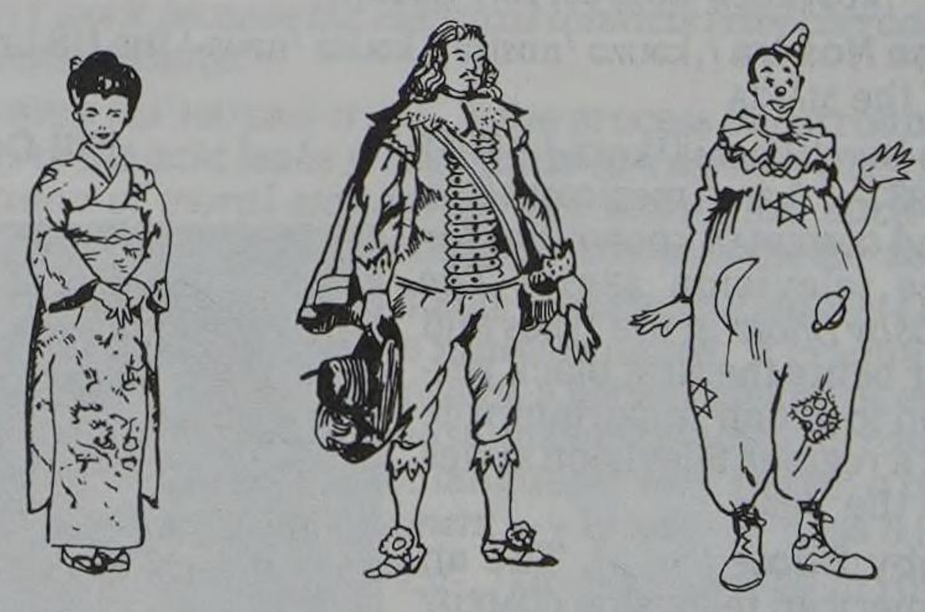
cost-plus /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* a method of agreeing on a selling price in which an agreed rate of profit is added to the cost price

cost-plus /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *adj* : *cost-plus pricing*

cost price /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ also **cost** *esp. AmE*— *n* [U] the price a shopkeeper pays for an article, which is less than the price the buyer pays the shopkeeper (**the retail price**): *The employees of the store are allowed to buy furniture at cost price|at cost.*

costs /kɒsts‖kɔːsts/ *n* [P] the cost of taking a matter to a court of law, esp. as ordered to be paid by the side that lost the case to the side that won it: *She won the case and was awarded costs.*

costume



national costume/dress | period costume/dress | a clown's costume

cos·tume /ˈkɒstjʊm‖ˈkɑːstuːm/ *n* **1** [C;U] the clothes typical of a certain period, country, or profession, esp. as worn in plays: *They are all dressed in national costume. | actors in 18th-century costumes | a* **costume drama** (=one in which clothes from a former period are worn) **2** [C] *BrE* a SWIMMING COSTUME **3** [C] *old-fash* a woman's suit

costume jew·elle·ry /ˈ·· ˌ···/ *n* [U] expensive-looking jewellery made from cheap materials

cos·tu·mi·er /kɒˈstjuːmiəʳ‖kɑːˈstuː-/ *n* a person who makes or deals in costumes, esp. for plays

co·sy[1] /ˈkəʊzi/ *esp. BrE* ‖ **cozy** *AmE adj* **1** *apprec* warm, comfortable and protected from unpleasantness: *a cosy little house* | *The room had a nice cosy feel.* **2** *sometimes derog* based on or showing a close relationship, perhaps with a dishonest purpose: *cosy deals between the union leaders and the company management* —see also COSILY

cosy[2] *n* a covering put over a teapot to keep the contents warm: *a tea cosy*

cot /kɒt‖kɑːt/ *n* **1** *BrE* ‖ **crib** *AmE*– a small bed for a young child, usu. with high movable sides so that the child cannot fall out **2** *AmE for* CAMP BED —see picture at BED

co·tan·gent /kəʊˈtændʒənt/ *n tech* the FRACTION calculated for an angle by dividing the length of the sides next and opposite to it in a right-angled TRIANGLE

cot death /ˈ· ˌ·/ *BrE* ‖ **crib death** *AmE* – *n* an unexpected and usu. unexplainable death of a baby that had been healthy. It is now officially called SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME.

Côte d'A·zur /ˌkəʊt dæˈzjʊəʳ‖-dəˈzʊər/ [*the*] an area of the coast in SE France, part of the Riviera, containing many popular places for holidays, e.g. Nice and Cannes. It is considered by British people to be a SOPHISTICATED place.

Côte d'I·voire /ˌkəʊt diːˈvwɑːʳ/ a country on the coast of Guinea, W Africa; capital Abidjan; population 12,098,000 (1989)

Côte d'Or /ˌkəʊt ˈdɔːʳ/ [*the*] an area in central France, near Dijon, from which the wine called Burgundy comes

co·te·rie /ˈkəʊtəri/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] *fml* a close group of people with shared interests, tastes, etc. It is sometimes difficult to be admitted to a coterie because they do not easily accept new members: *a small coterie of artists* | *Mrs Thatcher went to the hotel for lunch with her personal coterie.*

co·ter·mi·nous /kəʊˈtɜːmɨnəs‖-ɜːr-/ *adj* [(**with**)] *fml* sharing the same border: *England is coterminous with Wales.* —~**ly** *adv*

co·til·lion /kəˈtɪljən/ *n* a dance of 18th-century French origin

Cots·wolds /ˈkɒtswəʊldz‖ˈkɑːts-/ *n* [*the*+P] (the area containing) a range of hills in the SW of England. It is a pretty area, much visited by tourists, where many of the local houses are made from **Cotswold stone** (=stone taken from the hills).

cottage



a typical English cottage

cot·tage /ˈkɒtɪdʒ‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* **1** a small house, esp. an old one in the country. These are often thought of in a very ROMANTIC way as being COSY and safe, and having a thatched roof (THATCH[1]) and roses round the door: *They dreamed of buying a little cottage in the country.* —see HOUSE (USAGE) **2** *BrE sl* a place, such as a PUBLIC CONVENIENCE, where COTTAGING takes place

cottage cheese /ˌ·· ˈ·‖ˈ·· ·/ *n* [U] soft lumpy white cheese made from sour milk. It is fairly low in fat and often eaten by people trying to lose weight.

cottage hos·pi·tal /ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n BrE* a small hospital, usu. in a country area

cottage in·dus·try /ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n* an industry whose labour force consists of people working at home with their own tools or machinery: *Hand-knitting sweaters has become a cottage industry in some parts of Scotland.*

cottage loaf /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* a loaf of bread made in two round pieces with the smaller one stuck on top of the larger one

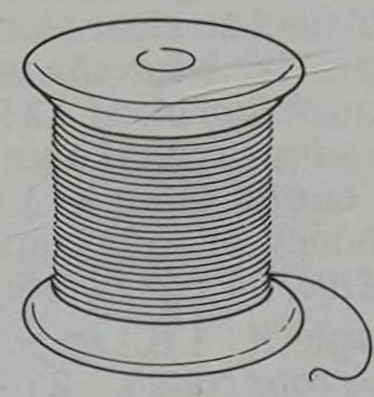
cottage pie /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] SHEPHERD'S PIE

cot·tag·er /ˈkɒtɪdʒəʳ‖ˈkɑː-/ *BrE n* **1** *rare* a person who lives in a country COTTAGE **2** *sl* a man who wants to have sex with other men in a public place

cot·tag·ing /ˈkɒtɪdʒɪŋ‖ˈkɑː-/ *n* [U] *BrE sl* the practice of looking for male HOMOSEXUAL partners in public TOILETS, which is illegal in Britain

a reel of cotton

cot·ton[1] /ˈkɒtn‖ˈkɑːtn/ *n* [U] **1** a tall plant grown in warm areas for the soft white hair that surrounds its seeds **2** (thread or cloth made from) the hair of this plant: *a reel of red cotton* | *a cool white cotton shirt* | *Cotton is more comfortable to wear than nylon.* **3** *AmE for* COTTON WOOL



cotton[2] *v*

cotton on *phr v* [I (**to**)] *infml* to begin to understand; REALIZE: *He'd been speaking for half an hour before I cottoned on (to what he meant)!*

Cotton Belt /ˈ·· ·/ [*the*] the area across the S of the US from Texas to the E coast, in which cotton is grown

Cotton Bowl /ˈ·· ·/ [*the*] a college football CHAMPIONSHIP game played every year in Dallas, Texas and put on television in the US

cotton bud /ˈ·· ·/ *BrE* ‖ **Q-tip** *AmE tdmk*– *n* a short plastic stick with a small amount of cotton wool at each end, used for cleaning ears or other places that are hard to reach, e.g. on machinery

cotton can·dy /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [U] *AmE for* CANDYFLOSS

cotton gin /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a machine that separates seeds, etc. from cotton

cotton-pick·ing /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *adj* [A] *AmE infml* (used to give force to an expression of annoyance): *Mind your own cotton-picking business!*

cotton reel /ˈ·· ·/ *BrE* ‖ **spool** *AmE*– *n* a plastic or wooden object on which COTTON[1] (2) is wound, for use in sewing

cot·ton·tail /ˈkɒtnteɪl‖ˈkɑːtn-/ *n* a small American rabbit with a white tail

cot·ton·wood /ˈkɒtnwʊd‖ˈkɑːtn-/ *n* [C;U] (the wood from) a N American broad-leafed tree which drops seeds that look like cotton in the early summer

cotton wool /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *BrE* ‖ **cotton** *AmE*– *n* [U] a soft mass of cotton used for cleaning wounds, etc.: *Put a pad of cotton wool over the cut.* | *She used a piece of cotton wool to clean off her make-up.* | (fig.) *cotton wool clouds* | (fig.) *She wrapped her children up in cotton wool to protect them from the realities of life.*

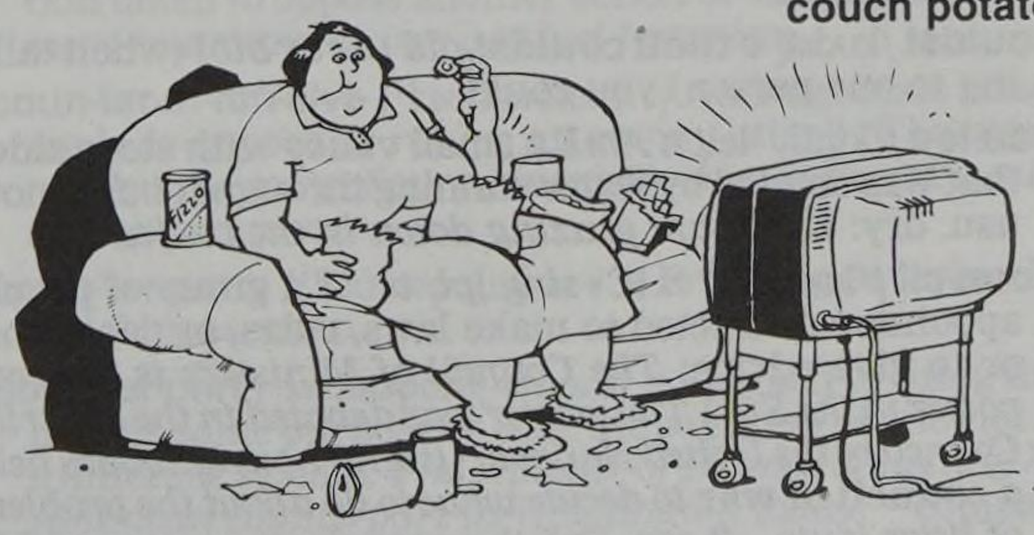
couch[1] /kaʊtʃ/ *n* **1** a long comfortable piece of furniture, usu. with a back and arms, on which more than one person can sit, or a person can lie; SOFA: *Lie down on the couch if you're feeling ill.* | *the psychiatrist's couch* —see picture at LIVING ROOM **2** *lit* a bed

couch[2] *v* **be couched in** *fml* (of a statement, letter, etc.) to be expressed in the stated way: *His refusal was couched in rather unfriendly terms.*

cou·chette /kuːˈʃet/ *n* **1** a narrow shelf-like folding bed on which a person can sleep on a train **2** a comfortable seat on a night boat or train —compare SLEEPING CAR

couch grass /ˈkuːtʃ grɑːs, ˈkaʊtʃ-‖-græs/ *n* [U] a rough grass with long creeping roots

couch potato



couch po·ta·to /ˈ· ·ˌ··/ *n infml derog* a person who takes little or no exercise, but spends most of their time sitting around, esp. watching television

cou·gar /ˈkuːgəʳ/ also **mountain lion, puma, panther**– *n* **-gars** *or* **-gar** a large powerful brown wild cat from the mountainous areas of Western North America and South America —see picture at BIG CATS

cough[1] /kɒf‖kɔːf/ *v* **1** [I] to push air out from the throat suddenly, with a short rough sound, esp. because of discomfort in the throat during a cold or other infection: *You're coughing a lot – I think you smoke too much.* **2** [T (UP)] to clear (something) from the throat by doing this: *We knew she was seriously ill when she started to cough (up) blood.* **3** [I] to make a sound like a cough: *The engine coughed once or twice, but wouldn't start.*

cough (sthg. ↔) **up** *phr v* [I;T] *sl* to produce (esp. money or information) unwillingly: *Dad coughed up (£100) for our holiday.*

cough[2] *n* **1** [C] an act or sound of coughing: *She gave a nervous cough.* **2** [S] a (medical) condition marked by frequent or repeated coughing: *John had a bad cough all last week.* –see also WHOOPING COUGH

cough sweet /ˈ· ·/ *BrE* also **cough drop**– *n* a MEDICATED sweet used for making a sore throat feel better

cough syr·up /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* [U] a usu. sweet MEDICATED liquid used to help prevent coughing

could /kəd; *strong* kʊd/ *v 3rd person sing.* **could,** *negative short form* **couldn't** /ˈkʊdnt/ [*modal+to-v*] **1** (describes **can** in the past): *I could run very fast when I was a schoolgirl.* | *I couldn't get the tickets yesterday.* **2** (used instead of **can** to describe what someone has said, asked, etc.): *He said we could smoke.* (His actual words were "You can smoke.") | *She asked whether she could go home.* **3** (used to show what is or might be possible, but without real force or certainty): *This new project could create 5000 new jobs.* | *It could be weeks before we know the full cost of the accident.* | *The government could do a lot more to help small businesses.* | *In my view, this accident could have been prevented.* | *We couldn't have picked a worse day for the picnic – it rained nonstop.* | *I could have kicked him* (=I wanted to) *when he said that.* **4** (in CLAUSES expressing purpose) might; would be able to: *He turned his face away so that I couldn't see the tears.* **5** (used to make a request): *Could you put this case on the shelf for me, please?* –compare CAN[1] (7): Tentativeness and Requests **6** (used to suggest a possible or desirable course of action): *If she's not at home, you could try phoning her at the office.* **7** (shows annoyance) *You could be a bit more careful!* | *You could have told me you were going to be late.* –compare MIGHT (4); see NOT (USAGE) and

▷USAGE 1 When talking about the past, **could** can be used when we want only to say that someone had the ability or power: *She* **could** *play the piano when she was five.* To express the idea of having the ability to do something and then doing it, you can use **manage to** (="try, then succeed") or **be able to** (more formal): *I* **managed to/was able to** *get the tickets I wanted* (=I **could** and I *did*). **Succeed in,** which is followed by *v-ing,* has the same meaning but is rather formal: *He* **succeeded in** *passing the examination.* But you can use **could not** to express the idea of "lack of success": *I* **couldn't/was unable to** (more formal) *find the person I was looking for.* 2 **Could** (past tense **could have**) can be used like **may** and **might** (past tenses **may have** and **might have**) to express the idea of "perhaps" (uncertainty), but is less common: *He* **may/might/could** *be on his way now.* (=perhaps he is coming) | *He* **may/might/could have** *been delayed.* (=Perhaps he has been delayed.) –see also CAN (USAGE), MIGHT (USAGE)◁

couldst /kʊdst/ *v* **thou couldst** *old use or bibl* (when talking to one person) you could

cou·lee /ˈkuːli, -lei/ *n AmE* a small valley with steep sides that was created by water running through it but is now usu. dry: *Cattle are grazing down in the coulee.*

coun·cil /ˈkaʊnsəl/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] **1** a group of people appointed or elected to make laws, rules, or decisions, or to give advice: *The Council of Ministers is the real power in the EC.* | *The matter was debated in the Security Council of the United Nations.* | (fig.) *The neighbours held a* **council of war** *to decide what to do about the problem of litter louts.* **2** *esp. BrE* the organization responsible for local government in a town, COUNTY, etc., often consisting of elected representatives and full-time non-elected employees: *The council have told us to cut down the trees.* | *We discussed this matter in council.* (=at a council meeting) | *Council meetings are held in the council chamber.* | *She's on the council.* (=is an elected member of it) | *She works for the council.* (=is a paid employee of the council) –see also extra information on page 568

▷USAGE The British use **council** to refer to their local government authority. It is less common in the US, where the system of local government varies from state to state, and Americans must usually be more specific and say e.g. **city council, town council, county council.**◁

council es·tate /ˈ·· ·ˌ·/ *n BrE* a piece of land on which houses have been built by the local council. They are rented to people for a small amount of money –see also COUNCIL HOUSE

Council for the Pro·tec·tion of Ru·ral En·gland /ˌ·· · · ˌ·· ˈ··/ also **CPRE**– [*the*] an association which aims to keep the countryside in England from being destroyed by farmers or DEVELOPERS

council house /ˈ·· ·/ *n* (in Britain) a house or flat (**council flat**) owned by the local town or COUNTY council, for which the family living in it pays rent: *As an unmarried mother, you will be near the top of the list for a council house.* –see colour picture on page 162

►CULTURAL NOTE Council houses are usu. plain in appearance and are cheap to rent. They are typically lived in by working class people. Recently, people living in council houses have had the chance to buy the house if they have enough money.◄

coun·cil·lor *BrE* ‖ **councilor** *AmE*– /ˈkaʊnsələr/ *n* a member of a council: *You should complain to your local councillor.*

coun·cil·man /ˈkaʊnsəlmən/ **coun·cil·wo·man** /-wʊmən/ *fem.– n* **-men** /mən/ *AmE* a member of a council

Council of Eu·rope /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ [*the*] an organization which has over 20 European countries as its members. Set up in 1949, it is based in Strasbourg. Members are encouraged to help one another in matters of law, politics, and CULTURE, and to settle arguments in its European Court of Human Rights –compare EC

council of war /ˌ·· · ˈ·/ *n* a discussion about how to meet danger, opposition, a problem, etc. or to plan some joint action: *The bosses are having a council of war right now to try to avoid total collapse.*

council tax /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* a British local government tax related to the value of people's houses. It replaced the very unpopular POLL TAX in 1993.

coun·sel[1] /ˈkaʊnsəl/ *n* **counsel** **1** [C] *law* a lawyer (in Britain a BARRISTER) acting for someone in a court of law: *The judge asked counsel for the defence to explain.* | *Both parties were represented by counsel.* (=both people had lawyers) **2** [U] *fml or lit* advice: *The king took counsel from the assembled nobles.* **3 keep one's own counsel** to keep one's plans, opinions, or intentions secret

counsel[2] *v* **-ll-** *BrE* ‖ **-l-** *AmE* [T] **1** *fml* to advise as a suitable course of action: *They counselled patience|caution.*[+*obj*+*to-v*] *She counselled them not to accept his explanation.* **2** to give advice and support to (esp. someone experiencing difficulty): *The unit was set up to counsel people with alcohol problems.* | *a counselling service for new students*

coun·sel·lor *BrE* ‖ **counselor** *AmE* /ˈkaʊnsələr/ *n* **1** someone who is paid to listen to people's problems and provide support and advice: *Have you thought of seeing a counsellor?* –see also MARRIAGE GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR **2** *esp. AmE* a lawyer

count[1] /kaʊnt/ *v* **1** [I (UP, **to**)] to say or name the numbers in order, one by one or by groups: *children learning to count* | *Count (up) to twenty and then open your eyes.* **2** [T] to name or take note of (all the units belonging to a group) one by one in order to find the whole number in the group; total: *Have you counted the money yet?* | *We counted the passengers and found that two were missing.* [+*wh-*] *The machine automatically counts how many people have used it.* **3** [T] to include when finding a total: *There are six people in my family, counting my parents.* **4** [T+*obj*+*n|adj|prep*] to consider or regard in the stated way: *After the accident they counted themselves lucky to be alive.* | *Pavlova is counted among the greatest dancers of the century.* **5** [I *not in progressive forms*] to have value, force, influence, or importance: *It is not what you say but what you do that counts.* | *She's the only person that really counts around here.* (=the only important person) | *For tax purposes this counts as* (=is officially regarded as) *unearned income.* | *In business, a strong*

personality often counts for more (=is more valuable or important) *than formal training.* | *That goal doesn't count, the player was out of bounds.* | *In light of your actions, your words* **count for nothing**. (=have no value at all) **6** ...**but who's counting?** (used to say that the number of something received or achieved does not matter to one, although this suggests that it really does): *"He scored seven goals." "Eight, actually, but who's counting?"* | *"That's all of them then – about 30 each." "32, I made it, but then who's counting?"* **7 count one's chickens before they're hatched** to make plans depending on something advantageous which has not yet happened **8 count sheep** to imagine one is counting sheep, with the eyes closed. British people are advised to count sheep as a way of falling asleep. **9 count the cost: a** to understand or suffer the bad effects of something done **b** to consider all risks before making a decision or doing something

count down *phr v* [I] to count backwards in seconds to zero, esp. before sending a spacecraft into space –see also COUNTDOWN

count sbdy. **in** *phr v* [T] *infml* to include, esp. in a planned activity: *If you're planning a trip to London count me in.* –opposite **count out**

count on/upon sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** to depend on: *You can count on me: I'll help you.* | *She can always be counted on for support.* [+*v-ing*] *We're counting on winning this contract.* [+*obj*+*v-ing*] *You can't count on the weather being fine.* [+*obj*+*to*+*v*] *You can count on him to come.* **2** to expect; take into account: [+(*obj*+)*v-ing*] *I didn't count on arriving so early|on John arriving so early.*

count sbdy./sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] **1** to put down one by one while counting: *He counted out ten £5 notes.* **2** to declare (a BOXER who fails to get up from the floor after ten seconds) to be the loser of a fight: *Tyson was counted out in the tenth round.* **3** *infml* to decide not to include; EXCLUDE: *If you're playing football in this weather you can count me out.* –opposite **count in**

count[2] *n* **1** an act of counting or total reached by counting: *The vote was so close that we had to have several counts.* | *The number of students was 523 at the last count.* **2** any of a number of crimes of which a person is thought to be guilty: *The prisoner was found not guilty on all counts.* | (fig.) *This policy has failed on several counts.* (=in several different ways) **3 keep/lose count** to know/fail to know the exact number: *I've lost count of how many times I've seen this programme.* (=because I've seen it so often) **4 out for the count** (in BOXING) to be unconscious for a period of ten counted seconds: (fig.) *Don't try to wake George – he's out for the count.* (=fast asleep)

count[3] *n* (*often cap.*) a European nobleman with a rank similar to that of a British EARL –compare COUNTESS

count·a·ble /ˈkaʊntəbəl/ *adj* that can be counted: *A* **countable noun** *can also be called a count noun and is often marked* [C] *in this dictionary.* –opposite **uncountable**

Count Basie see BASIE, **Count**

count·down /ˈkaʊntdaʊn/ *n* an act of counting backwards in seconds to zero: *a ten-second countdown before the spacecraft takes off* –see also COUNT **down**[8]

coun·te·nance[1] /ˈkaʊntɨnəns/ *n fml* **1** [C] the appearance or expression of a person's face: *a fierce|angry countenance* **2** [U] support or approval: *Terrorists will get no countenance here.*

countenance[2] *v* [T] *fml* to give support or approval to; regard as acceptable; SANCTION: *We have said several times that we will never countenance violence.* [+*v-ing*] *The government will not countenance giving in to blackmail.*

coun·ter[1] /ˈkaʊntəʳ/ *n* **1** a narrow table or flat surface at which customers are served in a shop, bank, restaurant, etc.: *I'm sorry, this counter is closed now.* **2** also **countertop** *AmE for* WORKTOP **3 over the counter** (when buying drugs) without a doctor's PRESCRIPTION: *You can buy antibiotics over the counter in this country.* **4 under the counter** privately, secretly, and often illegally: *You can buy alcohol under the counter there, but it's risky and expensive.*

counter[2] *n* **1** a person or esp. an electrical apparatus that counts: *Set the counter to zero and you'll know where the recording starts.* –see also GEIGER COUNTER **2** a small flat object used in some table games, e.g. instead of money or to mark one's place on a board

counter[3] *v* [I;T] to move or act in order to oppose or defend oneself against (something): *They moved two destroyers into the area to counter the threat from the enemy battleship.* | *They were accused of wasting public money, but they countered (this charge) with the claim that they had wide public support.* | *new measures that are aimed at countering the rise in violent crime*

counter[4] *adj, adv* [F+**to**] (in a manner or direction that is) opposed or opposite: *He acted counter to all advice.* | *behaviour that* **runs counter to** *international law*

counter[5] *n* something that is opposed or can be used to oppose something else: *The new missiles will be useful as* **a bargaining counter** (=a means of gaining an advantage) *in the arms control talks.*

counter- see WORD FORMATION

coun·ter·act /ˌkaʊntərˈækt/ *v* [T] to reduce or oppose the effect of (something) by opposite action: *The drug counteracts the effects of the poison.* –~**ion** /ˈækʃən/ *n* [C;U]

coun·ter·at·tack[1] /ˈkaʊntərətæk/ *n* an attack made to stop, oppose, or return an enemy attack

counterattack[2] *v* [I;T] to make a counterattack (on) –~**er** *n*

coun·ter·at·trac·tion /ˌkaʊntərəˈtrækʃən/ *n* an attraction that competes with another

coun·ter·bal·ance[1] /ˈkaʊntəˌbæləns‖-tər-/ *n* a weight or force that acts as a balance for another weight or force

coun·ter·bal·ance[2] /ˌkaʊntəˈbæləns‖-tər-/ *v* [T] to oppose or balance with an equal weight or force: *The elevator is counterbalanced by a heavy weight that moves in the opposite direction.* | (fig.) *Its usefulness fails to counterbalance its considerable expense.*

coun·ter·blast /ˈkaʊntəblɑːst‖-tərblæst/ *n* (e.g. in newspapers) a violent or angry reply: *Her speech brought a quick counterblast from the opposition leader.*

coun·ter·claim /ˈkaʊntəkleɪm‖-tər-/ *n* an opposing claim, esp. in law

coun·ter·clock·wise /ˌkaʊntəˈklɒkwaɪz‖-təˈklɑːk-/ *adj, adv AmE for* ANTICLOCKWISE

coun·ter·es·pi·o·nage /ˌkaʊntərˈespiənɑːʒ, -nɪdʒ/ also **coun·ter·in·tel·li·gence** /ˌkaʊntərɪnˈtelɨdʒəns/– *n* [U] secret police work directed towards uncovering and opposing enemy ESPIONAGE

coun·ter·feit[1] /ˈkaʊntəfɪt‖-tər-/ *v* [T] to make an exact copy of (something) in order to deceive: *They had been counterfeiting £5 notes.* –~**er** *n*

counterfeit[2] *adj* made exactly like something real in order to deceive: *counterfeit money|passports* | (fig.) *counterfeit sympathy*

coun·ter·foil /ˈkaʊntəfɔɪl‖-tər-/ *n esp. BrE* a part of a cheque, money order, etc., kept by the sender as a record; STUB

coun·ter·in·sur·gen·cy /ˌkaʊntərɪnˈsɜːdʒənsi‖-ɜːr-/ *n* [U] military activity against INSURGENTS

coun·ter·mand /ˌkaʊntəˈmɑːnd, ˈkaʊntəmɑːnd‖ˈkaʊntərmænd/ *v* [T] to declare (an order or command already given) ineffective, often by giving a different order: *The sergeant's order was countermanded by a superior officer.*

coun·ter·mea·sure /ˈkaʊntəmeʒəʳ‖-tər-/ *n* [*often pl.*] an action taken to oppose another action or situation: *government countermeasures against terrorism*

coun·ter·of·fen·sive /ˈkaʊntərəfensɪv/ *n* a large-scale attack made to oppose or return an enemy attack: *The speech marked the start of our counteroffensive against the military government.*

coun·ter·pane /ˈkaʊntəpeɪn‖-ər-/ *n BrE* a top covering for a bed; BEDSPREAD

coun·ter·part /ˈkaʊntəpɑːt‖-ərpɑːrt/ *n* a person or thing that has the same purpose or does the same job as another in a different system: *The Minister of Defence is meeting his American counterpart in Washington today.* –compare OPPOSITE NUMBER

coun·ter·point /ˈkaʊntəpɔɪnt‖-ər-/ *n* **1** [U] the combining of two or more tunes so that they can be played together as a single whole **2** [C] a tune added to another in this way

coun·ter·poise /ˈkaʊntəpɔɪz‖-ər-/ *v, n* COUNTERBALANCE[1,2]

coun·ter·pro·duc·tive /ˌkaʊntəprəˈdʌktɪv◂‖-tər-/ *adj* tending to work against a desired aim; having an opposite

effect from the one intended: *These hardline measures proved counterproductive, as they simply increased opposition to the government.*

counter-rev·o·lu·tion /ˌ·· ··ˈ·· *n* [C;U] political or military opposition to a REVOLUTION or to a government established by revolution – ~**ary** *adj, n*: *counter-revolutionary forces*

coun·ter·sign[1] /ˈkaʊntəsaɪn‖-ər-/ *v* [T] to sign (a paper already signed by someone else): *When you have signed the agreement, it will be countersigned by one of the directors.*

countersign[2] *n BrE* a PASSWORD

coun·ter·sink /ˈkaʊntəsɪŋk‖-ər-/ *v* **-sank** /sæŋk/, **-sunk** /sʌŋk/ [T] *tech* to fit (a screw) into an enlarged hole so that its head fits level with the surface

coun·ter·ten·or /ˌkaʊntəˈtenəʳ‖ˈkaʊntərˌtenər/ *n* (a male singer with) a high voice; ALTO (1)

coun·ter·vail·ing /ˌkaʊntəˈveɪlɪŋ◂ ‖ -ər-/ *adj* [A] acting with equal force but opposite effect: *He had to admit that the countervailing argument was equally as strong as his own.*

coun·tess /ˈkaʊnt̬ɘs/ *n* a woman who holds the rank of EARL or COUNT either for herself or because she is the wife of an earl or count –compare COUNT[3]

coun·ting·house /ˈkaʊntɪŋhaʊs/ *n* **-houses** /ˌhaʊzɘz/ (in former times) a business office where accounts and money were kept

count·less /ˈkaʊntləs/ *adj* very many; too many to be counted: *countless reasons against it*

count noun /ˈ· ·/ *n tech* a noun that has both singular and plural forms and that can be used with numbers and words such as **many**, **few**, etc., or with **a** or **an**. In this dictionary, count nouns are often marked [C]. –compare UNCOUNTABLE

coun·tri·fied /ˈkʌntrifaɪd/ *adj often derog* of or like the country or country people; UNSOPHISTICATED

coun·try[1] /ˈkʌntri/ *n* **1** [C] an area of land that is a nation, esp. considered together with its population, political organization, industry, etc.: *Portugal is a smaller country than Spain.* | *England is my native country.* (=the country where I was born) | *The best farmland is in the north of the country.* | *The company has branches in 15 countries.* | *the world's major oil-producing countries* | *Bulgaria used to be a socialist country.* | *Several countries were represented at the conference.* –compare NATION (1); see also MOTHER COUNTRY; see FOLK (USAGE) **2** [*the*] the land outside cities or towns; land used for farming or left unused: *We're going to have a day in the country tomorrow.* –see also CROSS-COUNTRY **3** [U] land with a special nature or character: *good farming country* | *This is fox-hunting country.* (=an area where people hunt foxes) **4 go to the country** *esp. BrE* (of a government) to have a GENERAL ELECTION: *If they're defeated in Parliament the government will go to the country.* **5 your country needs you** a phrase used on a British POSTER during the First World War to persuade people to join the army

country[2] *adj* [A] of, in, or from the COUNTRY[1] (2): *country life* | *country sports* | *a country house*

country and west·ern /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ also **country music, C&W**– *n* [U] popular music in the style of the southern and western US. Its centre is Nashville in Tennessee: *She sings in a country and western band.*

country bump·kin /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* see BUMPKIN

country club /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a sports and social club, usually with land in the country. The members of a country club usu. have to be quite rich to afford to belong to it.

Country Code /ˈ·· ˌ·/ [*the*] *BrE* a collection of advice for people who visit the British countryside on how to behave when in the country, e.g. to close all gates, keep dogs under control, etc.: *Always follow the Country Code.*

country cous·in /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n derog* a simple inexperienced person who is confused by busy city life –see also BUMPKIN

country dance /ˌ·· ˈ·‖ˈ·· ·/ *n* any of several dances for several pairs of dancers arranged in rows or circles – **country dancing** *n* [U]

country house /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n BrE* a large house in the country, often of historical interest, which the public can pay to see around. The house's owners sometimes do not live in it, or it may be owned by an organization such as the National Trust –see also STATELY HOME

Country Life /ˌ·· ˈ·/ a British monthly magazine which writes about life in the COUNTRY[1] (2), the natural world and gardening. *Country Life* is connected in people's minds with wealthy people who live in the country or own land in the country.

coun·try·man /ˈkʌntrimən/ **coun·try·wom·an** /-ˌwʊmən/ *fem.– n* **-men** /mən/ **1** a person from one's own country; COMPATRIOT: *He was unpopular with his (fellow) countrymen.* **2** a person living in the country (=not in a town) or having country ways

country mu·sic /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [U] COUNTRY AND WESTERN

country seat /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* the country house of a rich landowner

coun·try·side /ˈkʌntrisaɪd/ *n* [(*the*) U] land outside the cities and towns, used for farming or left unused; country areas: *Modern agriculture is spoiling our beautiful countryside.*

Countryside Com·mis·sion /ˈ··· ·ˌ··/ [*the*] a British organization which aims to CONSERVE and improve the countryside, and provides facilities (FACILITY) for the public, such as PATHWAYS and national parks

coun·ty[1] /ˈkaʊnti/ *n* **1** (in Britain) a unit of local government in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. There are 46 counties in England and 6 in Wales. Each is governed by an elected group of people, a COUNTY COUNCIL, and within each county there are usu. several DISTRICT COUNCILS, and in some areas also PARISH COUNCILS. Northern Ireland has simply 26 district councils, and Scotland has a different system of local government. Many counties have names that end in 'shire', e.g. Hertfordshire, Lancashire, Cheshire. They each have their own character and are connected with different things in the British mind, e.g. Devon is connected with holidays and cream, and Kent with HOPS[3]. –compare REGION **2** (in the US) the largest unit below the level of a state: *Orange County in California* –compare PROVINCE

county[2] *adj BrE old-fash* belonging to or typical of the wealthy landowning classes in Britain. Many people think of county people as speaking with very upper-class ACCENTS and wearing clothes which are expensive and of good quality, but not fashionable or modern.

county cham·pi·on·ship /ˌ·· ˈ····/ [*the*] a British cricket competition in which teams representing English counties play against each other –see also CRICKET

county coun·cil /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] (in Britain) a body of people elected to govern a county

county court /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* a local court of law in Britain or some US states which deals with small cases. In Britain county courts are used for CIVIL cases, not for criminal cases, but in the US they are used for both. –see also extra information on page 742

county crick·et /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [U] cricket played in England between teams each representing an English county –see also CRICKET

county fair /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n AmE* a fair usu. held each year in a particular county with competitions to choose the best entries in different categories, e.g. farm animals, sewing projects, cooking, etc. County fairs also usu. have musical entertainments, rides on special machines, and games of skill.

county town /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *BrE* ‖ **county seat** *AmE*– *n* the town where the local government of a COUNTY[1] is based

coup /kuː/ *n* **1** a clever move or action that obtains the desired result: *Getting the contract was quite a coup|a notable coup.* | *He pulled off* (=made) *a real coup by getting the first interview with the new minister.* **2** a coup d'état

coup de grâce /ˌkuː də ˈgrɑːs/ *n* [S] *Fr* a blow or shot which kills: *to give|receive the coup de grace* | (fig.) *The publicity caused by his connection with gangsters was the coup de grâce to his election campaign.*

coup d'é·tat /ˌkuː deɪˈtɑː‖-deˈtɑː/ also **coup**– *n* **coups d'état** (*same pronunciation*) a sudden violent seizing of state power by a small group that has not been elected

cou·pé /ˈkuːpeɪ‖kuːˈpeɪ/ also **coupe** /kuːp/– *n* an enclosed car with two doors and a sloping back

cou·ple[1] /ˈkʌpəl/ *n* **1** [C (**of**)] two things related in some

way; two things of the same kind: *I found a couple of socks in the bedroom but they don't make a pair.* **2** [C+*sing.*/*pl. v*] two people who live or spend time together, esp. a husband and wife: *young married couples* | *They're a nice couple.* **3** [S **(of)**] *infml* a few; several; a small number: *I'll be back in a couple of minutes.* | *I'll just have a couple of drinks.*

▷ USAGE Compare **pair** and **couple:** A **pair** is a set of two things which are not usually used separately. These may be two things which are not joined together, such as *shoes*, or something made in two parts, such as *trousers: a* **pair** *of socks* | *a* **pair** *of scissors*. Any two things of the same kind can be spoken of as a **couple:** *I saw a* **couple** *of cats in the garden.* | *Could you lend me a* **couple** *of pounds?* —see also PAIR (USAGE) ◁

couple[2] *v* **1** [T **(to,** TOGETHER**)**] to join together; connect: *They coupled the carriages of the train together.* —opposite **uncouple** **2** [I **(with)**] (esp. of animals) to unite sexually; MATE

couple sthg. **with** sthg. *phr v* [T *usu. pass.*] to join (one thing or set of things) to (another): *A reputation for quality, coupled with very competitive prices, has made these cars very popular.*

coup·let /ˈkʌplɪ̈t/ *n* two lines of poetry, one following the other, that are of equal length: *rhyming couplets* — compare TRIPLET; see also HEROIC COUPLET

coup·ling /ˈkʌplɪŋ/ *n* something that connects two things, esp. two railway carriages

cou·pon /ˈkuːpɒn‖-pɑːn/ *n* **1** a ticket that shows the right of the holder to receive some payment, service, etc.; VOUCHER: *Tear off this coupon and use it to get 25p off your next jar of coffee.* | *a 50-cents-off coupon for mayonnaise* **2** a printed form on which goods can be ordered, an ENQUIRY made, a competition entered, etc.: *To take advantage of our special offer, simply fill in the coupon and send it to us.*

cour·age /ˈkʌrɪdʒ‖ˈkɜːr-/ *n* [U] **1** the quality that makes a person able to control fear in the face of danger, pain, misfortune, etc.; bravery: *She showed remarkable courage when she heard the bad news.* | *a man of great courage* | *I didn't have the courage to tell him.* **2 have the courage of one's (own) convictions** to be brave enough to do or say what one thinks is right **3 take one's courage in both hands** to gather enough courage to do something that needs a lot of bravery —see also DUTCH COURAGE

Courage *tdmk* a British company that makes and sells beer in shops and its own PUBS

cou·ra·geous /kəˈreɪdʒəs/ *adj* brave; showing courage: *a courageous action/person* | *It was courageous of you to say what you did.* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

cour·gette /kʊəˈʒet‖kʊr-/ *BrE* ‖ **zucchini** *AmE*— *n* a small green MARROW (=long vegetable with a dark green skin) eaten cooked as a vegetable or raw in SALADS —see picture at VEGETABLE

cou·ri·er[1] /ˈkʊriəʳ/ *n* **1** a person or company that is employed to carry messages or other official papers, esp. of an urgent or official kind: *We sent the contract to Tokyo by courier.* **2** someone who goes with and looks after travellers on a tour

courier[2] *v* [T**(to)**] to send with a COURIER[1] (1)

course[1] /kɔːs‖kɔːrs/ *n* **1** the path along which something moves; direction of movement taken by someone or something: *the course of a river* | *The plane changed course to avoid the storm.* | *The ship was blown off course.* | (fig.) *a politician attempting to* **steer a middle course** *between conservatism and reform* | (fig.) *The company is* **on course** *to achieve its profit targets.* **2** [**(of)** *usu. sing.*] continuous movement from one point to another in space or time: *The enemy should be defeated* **in the course of** (=during) *the year.* | *During the course of the next few minutes we will be serving tea and biscuits.* **3** the usual, natural, or established pattern or process by which something happens or is done: *He has committed a crime and now the law must take its course.* | *They decided to let the illness* **run its course**. | *He is charged with attempting to pervert the course of justice.* (=to prevent the law from operating properly) **4** a plan of action: *Their police officers carry guns, and ours may soon have to adopt a similar course.* | *Your best* **course of action** is to try to forget about her. **5** an area of land or water on which a race is held or certain types of sport played: *a golf course* | *a race course* —see also ASSAULT COURSE **6** [**(in)**] a set of lessons or studies: *a course of lectures* | *a four-year history course* | *to take/do a course in car maintenance* — see also COURSE BOOK, CRASH COURSE **7** [**(of)**] *esp. BrE* actions, a set of events of a planned and fixed number, esp. for the purpose of medical treatment: *a course of drugs/anti-rabies injections* **8** any of the different parts of a meal: *We had a three-course dinner: chicken soup, roast beef, and ice-cream.* **9** a continuous level line of bricks, stone, etc., all along a wall —see also DAMP COURSE **10 in due course** without too much delay; at the right time **11 in the course of time** when enough time has passed **12 in the ordinary/normal course of events/things** usually; in the way things ordinarily happen: *In the ordinary course of events they'd be here by now; the plane must be late.* **13 of course** also **course** *infml*— **a** certainly; NATURALLY (3): *Of course I'll give you your money back.* | *"Were you glad to leave?" "Of course not!"* **b** (often followed by **but** and used as a way of introducing a point of doubt or disagreement) I agree (that): *Of course you must make a profit, but not if it involves exploiting people.* | *Of course these figures may not be completely accurate, but I think we should take them very seriously.* —see also MATTER OF COURSE, **stay the course** (STAY[1])

▷ USAGE **Of course** (=certainly) is a polite way of agreeing and showing willingness to help, in reply to requests such as *Can you help me?* and *May I borrow this book?* But **of course** is not polite in reply to a question asking for information: *"Do many students study English at your school?" "Yes, they do/Yes, the majority."* The reply **of course** here would suggest "this fact is so obvious that you ought to know it". ◁

course[2] *v* **1** [I+*adv*/*prep*] *esp. lit* (of liquid) to flow rapidly: *Tears coursed down his cheeks.* **2** [I;T] *BrE* to chase (a rabbit or HARE) with dogs as a sport: *to go coursing*

course book /ˈ· ·/ *n BrE* a book giving information, esp. information that develops slightly every lesson, that is used regularly during a whole set of lessons, e.g. during a whole TERM or year —compare TEXT BOOK

court[1] /kɔːt‖kɔːrt/ *n* **1** [C;U] a room or building in which law cases can be heard and judged: *Silence in court!* | *Her case will be heard in the High Court.* | *The case was* **settled out of court**. (=without having to be heard by a judge) | *an out-of-court settlement* —see also COURT OF APPEAL, COURTROOM, OATH **2** [(*the*) U] the people, esp. law officers and members of the JURY, who are gathered together in a court to hear and judge a law case: *The court stood when the judge entered.* | *The defendant told the court that he had never seen the woman before.* —see also CONTEMPT **3** [C;U] (a part of) an area specially prepared and marked for various ball games, such as tennis: *a squash/badminton court* | *Are the players on court yet?* — see picture at TENNIS **4** [C] (*often cap. as part of a name*) **a** a short street surrounded by buildings on three sides: *They lived in Westbury Court.* **b** *esp. BrE* a block of flats **c** also **courtyard**— an open space wholly or partly surrounded by buildings, esp. next to or inside a castle, large house, etc. **5** [C;U] the official home of a king or queen: *the Court of Versailles* | *He is well-known at court/in court circles.* | *the newspaper's court correspondent* (=a reporter who deals with news concerning the royal family) **6** [C+*sing.*/*pl. v*] the king or queen with his/her family and the officials, noblemen, servants, etc., who attend him/her: *the Moroccan court* **7 pay court to** *old-fash* to COURT[2] (2) **8 rule something/someone out of court** to prevent a person, matter, or subject from being considered by a court of law **9 take someone to court** to start an action in law against someone —see also **the ball is in your court** (BALL[1] (10))

court[2] *v* **1** [T] to pay attention to (an important or influential person) in order to gain favour, advantage, approval, etc.: *He's courting the farmers because he needs their votes in the election.* **2** [T] to try to obtain (a desired state): *The teacher tried to court popularity by giving his students very little work.* **3** [T] to risk (something bad), often foolishly or thoughtlessly: *to court danger/arrest/disaster* **4** [I;T] *old-fash* **a** (of a man) to visit and pay attention to (a woman he hopes to marry): *John courted Mary for years.* **b** (of a man and woman) to be in a relationship that may lead to marriage: *a* **courting couple**

Cour·tauld In·sti·tute /ˈkɔːtəʊld ˌɪnstɪ̈tjuːt‖ˈkɔːr-, -tuːt/ [*the*] an art GALLERY in London, esp. known for its collection of Impressionist and post-Impressionist paintings

court card /ˈ· ·/ *BrE* ‖**face card** *AmE*– *n* the king, queen, or JACK in a set of playing cards

cour·te·ous /ˈkɜːtiəs‖ˈkɜːr-/ *adj* polite and kind; showing good manners and respect for others –opposite **discourteous** – ~**ly** *adv* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

cour·te·san /ˌkɔːtɪˈzæn‖ˈkɔːrtɪzən/ *n* (esp. in former times) a woman who takes payment for sex from noble and socially important people; a high-class PROSTITUTE

cour·te·sy /ˈkɜːtɪsi‖ˈkɜːr-/ *n* **1** [U] polite behaviour; good manners: *I really think you should tell her you've given the job to someone else; it's a matter of* **common courtesy**. (=accepted politeness) –opposite **discourtesy** **2** [C] a polite or kind action or expression **3 (by) courtesy of** by the permission or generosity of (someone), usu. without payment: *This picture appears in the exhibition by courtesy of the National Art Collection.*

courtesy ti·tle /ˈ··· ˌ··/ *n* a title given (e.g. to certain relatives of British PEERS) by polite custom and not held by legal right

court·house /ˈkɔːthaʊs‖ˈkɔːrt-/ *n* **-houses** /ˌhaʊzɪz/ *esp. AmE* a building containing courts of law

court·ier /ˈkɔːtɪəʳ‖ˈkɔːr-/ *n* (in former times) a noble who attended at the court of a king or other ruler

court·ly /ˈkɔːtli‖ˈkɔːrtli/ *adj* graceful and polite in manners: *courtly behaviour* –**liness** *n* [U]

court-mar·tial[1] /ˌ· ˈ··‖ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* **courts-martial** *or* **court martials** **1** a military court of officers appointed to try people for offences against military law: *He was tried by court-martial.* **2** a trial before such a court

court-martial[2] *v* **-ll-** *BrE* ‖ **-l-** *AmE* [T] to try (someone) in a court-martial

Court of Ap·peal /ˌ· · ·ˈ·/ also **Appeal Court**– [*the*] (in Britian) the highest court to which one may take a criminal or CIVIL case apart from the House of Lords –see also extra information on page 742

Court of Appeals /ˌ· · ·ˈ·/ also **Appellate Court**– [*the*] (in the US) a court which examines FEDERAL cases that have been brought to them by people unsatisfied with the decision of a lower court. There are 12 of these courts in the US, each dealing with cases in a particular area of the country. –see also extra information on page 742

court of in·quir·y /ˌ· · · ˈ··‖ˌ· · ˈ···/ *n* **courts of inquiry** *esp. BrE* a body of people appointed to find out the facts or causes of a particular event, esp. an accident: *The government set up a court of inquiry to investigate the causes of the air disaster.* –compare GRAND JURY

court of law /ˌ· · ˈ·/ *n* **courts of law** a COURT[1] (1 and 2)

Court of St James' /ˌ· · · ˈ·/ [*the*] **1** the court of the British king or queen **2 to the Court of St James'** *fml* to Britain: *the new American ambassador to the Court of St James'*

Court of Ses·sion /ˌ· · ˈ··/ [*the*] the highest CIVIL court in Scotland

court or·der /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* an order given by a court of law that someone must do or not do something

court re·port·er /ˌ· · ˈ··/ *n* a person who records, on a special machine similar to a TYPEWRITER, everything that is said in a court during a case

court·room /ˈkɔːtruːm, -rʊm‖ˈkɔːrt-/ *n* the room in which a TRIAL is held

court·ship /ˈkɔːt-ʃɪp‖ˈkɔːrt-/ *n* **1** [C;U] (the length of time taken by) the act of courting (COURT[2] (2)) **2** [U] special behaviour, dancing, etc. used by animals to attract each other before mating (MATE): *unusual courtship displays*

court shoe /ˈ· ·/ *BrE* ‖ **high heel, heel** *AmE*– *n* a type of plain shoe with middle sized heels and no fastenings– see picture at SHOE

court·yard /ˈkɔːtjɑːd‖ˈkɔːrtjɑːrd/ *n* a COURT[1] (4c)

cous·cous /ˈkuːskuːs/ *n* [U] a North African dish, made of specially prepared crushed wheat cooked in steam and served with cooked meat (esp. lamb) and vegetables

cous·in /ˈkʌzən/ *n* **1** also **first cousin**– the child of one's uncle or aunt: *These are my cousins, Tom and Liz.* –see also COUNTRY COUSIN, FIRST COUSIN, KISSING COUSIN, and SECOND COUSIN **2** a related person or thing: *He's a distant cousin of mine.* | *the people of Spain and their cousins in South America*

Cous·teau /kuːˈstəʊ/, **Jacques** /ʒæk‖ʒɑːk/ (1910–) a French EXPLORER of the sea, writer, broadcaster, and maker of films about life under water. He also invented SCUBA equipment.

cou·ture /kuːˈtjʊəʳ‖-ˈtʊər/ also **haute couture**– *n* [U] the business of making and selling fashionable women's clothes –**turier** /kuːˈtjʊərieɪ‖-ˈtʊəriər/ *n*

cove[1] /kəʊv/ *n* a small sheltered opening in the coastline; small BAY[1]

cove[2] *n BrE old-fash sl* a man

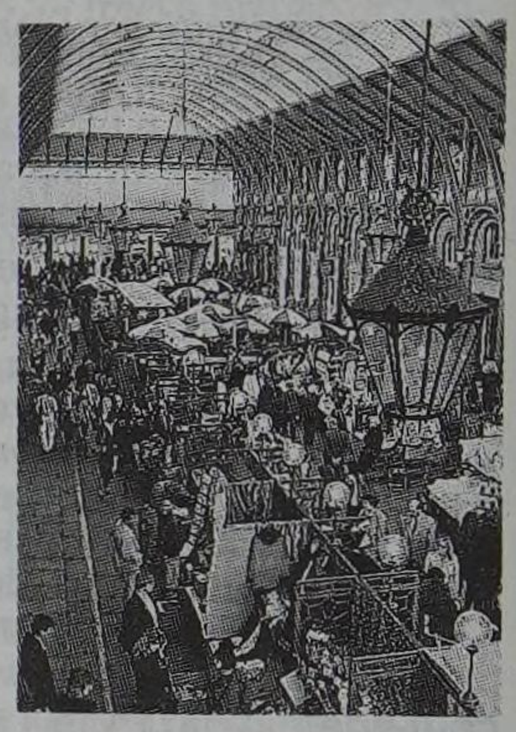
cov·en /ˈkʌvən/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] a gathering of witches (WITCH)

cov·e·nant[1] /ˈkʌvənənt/ *n* **1** a formal solemn agreement between two or more people or groups **2** *BrE* a DEED OF COVENANT

covenant[2] *v* [T] to promise in writing by a covenant; PLEDGE: *I covenanted (to pay|that I would pay) £50 a year to help rebuild the college.*

Cov·ent Gar·den /ˌkɒvənt ˈgɑːdn‖ˌkʌvənt ˈgɑːr-/ **1** an area of London once famous for its fruit and vegetable market, now replaced by expensive but popular shops, eating places, etc. –see colour map on page 817 **2** another name for the Royal Opera House, which is next to the place where Covent Garden market used to be

Covent Garden



Cov·en·try /ˈkʌvəntri, ˈkɒv-‖ˈkʌv-, ˈkɑːv-/ **1** an industrial city in the centre of England. Its present CATHEDRAL replaces one that was left in ruins when Coventry was badly bombed in the Second World War. **2 send someone to Coventry** (of a group of people) to refuse to speak to someone as a sign of disapproval or as a punishment; OSTRACIZE

cov·er[1] /ˈkʌvəʳ/ *v* **1** [T (OVER, **with**)] to place something upon or over (something) in order to protect or hide it: *We covered the body with a sheet.* | *Cover the food with a cloth.* | *The noise was so loud that she covered her ears with her hands.* **2** [T] to be or lie on or over the surface of (something); spread over (something): *The furniture was covered in|with dust.* | *The water kept rising till it almost covered our heads.* **3** [T] to fill (an area); EXTEND over: *The city covers 25 square miles.* **4** [T] to complete (a distance) by travelling: *We aimed to cover 400 miles before nightfall.* | (fig.) *After 25 lessons we had only covered half the course.* **5** [T] to deal with or take into account: *The book covers the period from 1870 to 1914.* | *The rights of part-time workers are not covered by these regulations.* **6** [T] to report the details of (an event) for a newspaper, TV station, etc.: *She covered the Ethiopian famine for CBS news.* **7** [T] to be enough money for: *Will £10 cover the cost of the damage?* **8** [T (**against**)] to protect from loss; insure: *Are you covered against fire?* **9** [T] **a** to protect (a person) by aiming a gun at an enemy: *The sheriff walked into the street while his deputy covered him from an upstairs window.* **b** to keep a gun aimed at (someone): *The policeman covered the suspect while I searched him.* **10** [T] to watch (a building, area, etc.) for possible trouble: *The police have got all the roads out of town covered.* **11** [T] (in sport) **a** to watch and stay close to (an opponent) **b** to defend (an area or position) against attack by the other team: *Cover the goalmouth, Pat!* | *Who's covering second base?* **12** [I (**for**)] to take responsibility in place of someone who is absent: *John's ill today, so Jean's covering for him.* **13 cover (all) one's bases** *AmE* to know one's weak points (in an argument, plan, etc.) and be prepared to defend them: *I don't think you've covered all your bases in this merger proposal.*

cover sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* **1** [T] to prevent from being noticed or becoming publicly known: *He tried to cover up his nervousness.* | *The newspapers printed the story before the government could cover it up.* –see also COVER-UP **2** [I] *infml* to cover the body: *Women in Muslim countries cover up when they go out.* | *If you don't cover up you'll catch cold!*

cover up for sbdy. *phr v* [T] *infml* to hide something

wrong or dishonourable in order to save (another person) from punishment, blame, etc.

cover[2] *n* **1** [C] something that protects or encloses by covering, esp. a piece of material, lid, or top: *an engine cover | a cushion cover | a manhole cover | Put another cover on the bed if you get cold.* **2** [C] the outer front or back page of a magazine or book: *I only bought the book because of its cover. | She read the book* **from cover to cover**. (=from beginning to end) **3** [U] shelter or protection: *The soldiers had no cover from the enemy guns. | When it started raining, we* **took cover** (=sheltered) *under a tree. | They escaped* **under cover of** *darkness. | The union provided safety cover* (=did necessary safety work) *for the mine during the strike.* –see also **break cover** (BREAK[1]) **4** [U (**against**)] insurance against loss, damage, etc.: *We've got full cover against fire and theft.* **5** [S;U] something that hides or keeps something secret: *Their travel business is just a cover for a drug-smuggling operation.* **6** [C] *tech* a place for one person set at a table with a knife, fork, etc. **7** [U] *tech* the plant life of an area **8 under plain/separate cover** in a plain/separate envelope –see also FIRST DAY COVER

cov·er·age /ˈkʌvərɪdʒ/ *n* [U] **1** the amount of time and space given by television, a newspaper, etc., to a particular subject or event: *The wedding got massive media coverage. | The president's visit got blanket coverage.* (=coverage in newspapers, on the radio, on television, etc.) **2** the amount of protection given by insurance; risks covered by insurance

cov·er·alls /ˈkʌvərɔːlz/ *n* [P] *AmE* a BOILER SUIT

cover charge /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a charge made by a restaurant in addition to the cost of the food and drinks or the cost of service

covered wag·on /ˌ·· ˈ··/ also **Conestoga, Conestoga wagon**– *n* a large horse-drawn vehicle with rounded cloth-covered top, in which settlers crossed N America in the WILD WEST –see colour picture on page 358

cover girl /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a young attractive woman whose photograph is on the cover of a magazine: *her cover girl looks*

cov·er·ing /ˈkʌvərɪŋ/ *n* something that covers or hides: *a light covering of snow*

covering letter /ˌ··· ˈ··/ *BrE* ‖ **cover letter** /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *AmE*– *n* a letter or note containing an explanation or additional information, sent with a parcel or another letter – compare COMPLIMENT SLIP

cov·er·let /ˈkʌvəlɪt‖-vər-/ *n* a BEDSPREAD

cover note /ˈ·· ·/ *n esp. BrE* a document giving insurance cover to someone while their insurance POLICY is being prepared

cover sto·ry /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a story to go with the picture on the cover of a magazine

cov·ert[1] /ˈkʌvət, ˈkəʊvɜːt‖ˈkəʊvərt/ *adj* secret or hidden; not openly shown or admitted: *covert dislike | covert activity by the CIA to undermine their government* –opposite **overt** – ~**ly** *adv*

cov·ert[2] /ˈkʌvət‖-ərt/ *n* a thick growth of bushes and small trees in which animals can hide

cover-up /ˈ·· ·/ *n* [(**for**)] an attempt to prevent something dishonourable or criminal from becoming publicly known –see also COVER **up**

cov·et /ˈkʌvɪt/ *v* [T] *esp. bibl or humor* to desire eagerly (esp. something belonging to another person): *He won the coveted Lawson Award.* (=which everyone wants to win)

cov·et·ous /ˈkʌvɪtəs/ *adj derog* too eager for wealth or property or for someone else's possessions – ~**ly** *adv*

cov·et·ous·ness /ˈkʌvɪtəsnɪs/ *n* [U] the state of being covetous. Covetousness is one of the Seven Deadly Sins –see also SEVEN DEADLY SINS

cov·ey /ˈkʌvi/ *n* a small group of PARTRIDGES, GROUSE, or other birds

cow[1] /kaʊ/ *n* **1** a fully-grown female type of cattle, kept on farms, esp. to provide milk. In stories, cows are often named Daisy or Buttercup: *Bring the cows in for milking. | A young cow is called a calf. | a herd of 25 cows* – see also FRIESIAN, JERSEY (2), MOO; see MEAT (USAGE) **2** the female of certain other large sea and land animals: *a cow elephant* –compare BULL[1] (2), HEIFER **3** *derog sl* a woman: *You silly cow!* **4 have a cow** *infml humor, esp. AmE* to react to something by becoming very excited, angry, or emotional, and to express one's emotions, for example by shouting: *My mom had a cow last night because we didn't come home until midnight. | Okay, okay! Don't have a cow!* **5 How now, brown cow?** a phrase used in Britain in the past to teach people to speak in a socially acceptable way, rather than with a regional ACCENT **6 till the 'cows come home** *infml* for a very long time, possibly for ever: *You can sit there till the cows come home, but I don't think she'll turn up.* –see also SACRED COW

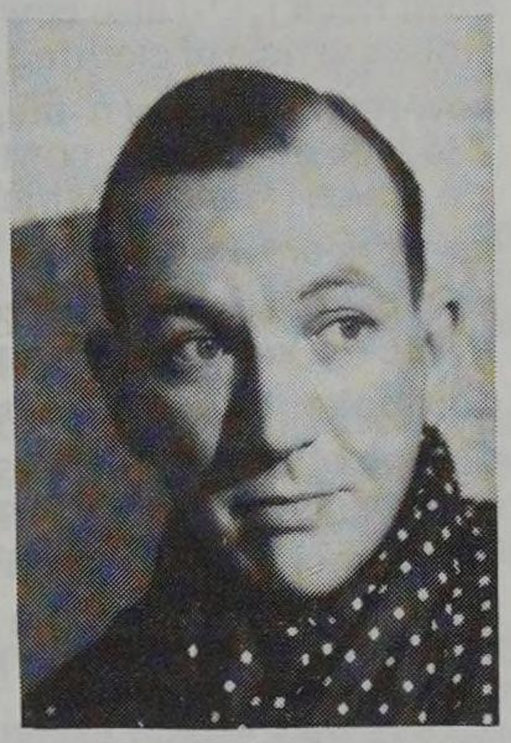
cow[2] *v* [T] to bring under control by violence or threats: *The people were cowed by the execution of their leaders.*

Cow & Gate /ˌ· · ˈ·/ *n tdmk* a company which makes food and milk products for babies

cow·ard /ˈkaʊəd‖-ərd/ *n derog* a person who is afraid to face danger, pain, or hardship; person who shows fear in a dishonourable way: *I'm afraid I'm something of a coward when it comes to snakes. | You snivelling little coward!*

Coward, Sir No·ël /ˈnəʊəl/ (1899–1973) an English actor and writer of plays and songs. He is remembered esp. for his comedies (COMEDY), including *Private Lives* and *Blithe Spirit* and for his unusual personality and WIT.

Noël Coward



cow·ard·ice /ˈkaʊədɪs‖-ər-/ also **cow·ard·li·ness** /ˈkaʊ ədlɪnɪs‖-ərd-/– *n* [U] *derog* lack of courage: *He was accused of cowardice in the face of the enemy.*

►CULTURAL NOTE The colour yellow is connected in people's minds with cowardice –see also YELLOW[1] (3)◄

cow·ard·ly /ˈkaʊədli‖-ər-/ *adj derog* typical of a coward; showing a dishonourable lack of courage: *cowardly behaviour*

cow·bell /ˈkaʊbel/ *n* a bell hung from the neck of a cow so that the cow can be easily found

cow·boy /ˈkaʊbɔɪ/ *n* **1** also **cowhand, cowpoke** *infml*– a person employed to look after cattle, esp. on horseback in N America: *cowboy boots* –see also COWBOYS AND INDIANS

►CULTURAL NOTE The idea that most people have of cowboys comes from cowboy films and is not very realistic. People think of cowboys as wearing special clothes such as STETSONS and long boots, and they think of cowboys as being honest but rough, independent, and strong. People sometimes compare American men to cowboys if they have a very independent job and behave in a very MASCULINE way: *The American engineers on the Kuwait oil operation are modern-day, tobacco-chewing cowboys with hard hats instead of Stetsons. –see also* WESTERN◄

2 *BrE sl* someone who is careless and dishonest in business: *a firm of cowboy builders*

cowboy film /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *BrE* ‖ **cowboy movie** *AmE* – *n infml* a WESTERN[2]

cowboy hat /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* a STETSON –see picture at HAT

cowboys and In·di·ans /ˌ·· · ˈ···/ *n* [P + *sing. v*] a game played by children who act the parts of cowboys and Native Americans (Indians) as they have seen them in films (WESTERNS): *Let's play cowboys and Indians. | Cowboys and Indians is their favourite game.*

cow·catch·er /ˈkaʊˌkætʃəʳ/ *n* a strong metal frame on the front of a railway engine used to push objects off the track

Cow·drey /ˈkaʊdri/, **Col·in** /ˈkɒlɪn‖ˈkɑː-/ (1932–) an English cricket player who was captain of the England team. He was known as an excellent BATSMAN.

cow·er /ˈkaʊəʳ/ *v* [I (DOWN)] to bend low and move back because of fear or shame; CRINGE: *The dog cowered when its master shouted at it. | We found the kidnapped children cowering in a corner.*

Cowes /kaʊz/ an English seaport, holiday town, and sailing centre on the Isle of Wight. Every year there is a REGATTA (=boat racing event) here, known as **Cowes**

Week. It is considered to be one of the most important sporting and social events of the year.

cow·girl /ˈkaʊgɜːl‖-gɜːrl/ *n* a female person employed to look after cattle, esp. on horseback in N America

cow·hand /ˈkaʊhænd/ *n* a person employed to look after cattle; a COWBOY, cowgirl, or cowherd

cow·herd /ˈkaʊhɜːd‖-hɜːrd/ *n* a person employed to look after cows and milk them

cow·hide /ˈkaʊhaɪd/ *n* [C;U] (a) skin of a cow, with or without the hair on it

cowl /kaʊl/ *n* **1** a loose head covering (a HOOD) for the whole of the head except the face, worn esp. by MONKS **2** a metal chimney-top cover that is moved by the wind to allow smoke to escape **3** a cover for an engine; cowling

cow·lick /ˈkaʊˌlɪk/ *n esp. AmE* a small mass of hair that stands up from the head

cowl·ing /ˈkaʊlɪŋ/ also **cowl**– *n* a removable metal cover for an aircraft engine –see picture at AIRCRAFT

cowl neck /ˌ· ˈ·/ also **cowl neck·line** /ˌ· ˈ··/– *n* the neck of an article of clothing which falls in folds at the front

cow·man /ˈkaʊmən/ *n* **-men** /mən/ **1** *BrE* a man employed to look after cows; COWHERD **2** *AmE* a man who owns a RANCH (=land on which cows are raised)

co-work·er /ˌkəʊ ˈwɜːkəʳ‖ˈkəʊ ˌwɜːrkər/ *n* a fellow-worker

cow·pat /ˈkaʊpæt/ *BrE* ‖ **cow chip, cow·pat·ty** /ˈkaʊpæti/ *AmE*– *n euph* a flat lump of COW DUNG

cow·poke /ˈkaʊpəʊk/ *n AmE infml* a COWBOY

cow·pox /ˈkaʊpɒks‖-pɑːks/ *n* [U] a disease of the cow which, when given to humans, protects them against SMALLPOX

cow·punch·er /ˈkaʊpʌntʃəʳ/ *n AmE infml* a COWBOY

cow·rie , cowry /ˈkaʊri/ *n* a shiny brightly-marked tropical shell, formerly used as money in parts of Africa and Asia

cow·shed /ˈkaʊʃed/ also **cow·house** /-haʊs/– *n* a building to which cows are taken to be milked or in which they live in winter

cow·slip /ˈkaʊˌslɪp/ *n* a small European wild plant of the PRIMROSE family which has sweet-smelling yellow flowers

cox /kɒks‖kɑːks/ also **cox·swain** /ˈkɒksən, -sweɪn‖ˈkɑːk-/ *fml*– *n* a person who guides and controls a rowing boat, esp. in races –see also BOX AND COX –**cox** *v* [I;T]

cox·comb /ˈkɒkskəʊm‖ˈkɑːks-/ *n* **1** *old use* a foolish man who spends too much time and money on his clothes and appearance **2** a COCKSCOMB (2)

Cox's /ˈkɒksɨz‖ˈkɑːk-/ *n* a popular English apple for eating, with an orange-yellow skin

coy /kɔɪ/ *adj* showing a (pretended) lack of self-confidence, esp. in order to attract interest or to avoid dealing with something difficult: *She gave him a coy smile.* | *Don't be so coy – I know you'd like to do the job really.* –~**ly** *adv* –~**ness** *n* [U]

coy·ote /ˈkɔɪ-əʊt, kɔɪˈəʊti‖ˈkaɪ-əʊt, kaɪˈəʊti/ *n* a small WOLF that lives in western N America and Mexico

coy·pu /ˈkɔɪpuː/ *n* **-pus** *or* **-pu** a large water rat of S America, kept on fur farms for its valuable fur called NUTRIA

coz·en /ˈkʌzən/ *v* [T] *old use* to trick; deceive

co·zy /ˈkəʊzi/ *adj AmE for* COSY –**-zily** *adv* –**-ziness** *n* [U]

CP /ˌsiː ˈpiː/ *abbrev. for:* COMMUNIST PARTY

CPA /ˌsiː piː ˈeɪ/ also **certified public accountant**– *n AmE for* CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

CPR /ˌsiː piː ˈɑːʳ/ *n* [U] cardiopulmonary resuscitation; the act of breathing into someone's mouth and pressing repeatedly on their chest or their heart to make them breathe again after an accident or some other damage to themselves –compare ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATION

CPRE /ˌsiː piː ɑːr ˈiː/ [*the*] *abbrev. for* COUNCIL FOR THE PROTECTION OF RURAL ENGLAND

CPS /ˌsiː piː ˈes/ [*the*] *abbrev. for* CROWN PROSECUTION SERVICE

CPU /ˌsiː piː ˈjuː/ *n* CENTRAL PROCESSING UNIT

CPVE /ˌsiː piː viː ˈiː/ *abbrev. for* CERTIFICATE OF PREVOCATIONAL EDUCATION

crab[1] /kræb/ *n* **1** [C] a sea animal with a flattened shell-covered body and five pairs of legs, of which the front pair are large powerful PINCERS *s* **2** [U] the flesh of this animal cooked as food: *crab salad* –see also CRABS



crab

crab[2] *v* **-bb-** [I (**about**)] *infml* to complain in a bad-tempered way; GRUMBLE

crab ap·ple /ˈ· ˌ··/ also **crab**– *n* (the tree that produces) a small sour apple, often used to make jelly

crab·bed /ˈkræbɨd/ *adj* **1** *BrE* (of writing) difficult to read because the letters are too close together **2** *old-fash* crabby –~**ly** *adv* –~**ness** *n* [U]

crab·by /ˈkræbi/ *adj infml* bad-tempered; IRRITABLE

crab·grass /ˈkræbgrɑːs‖-græs/ *n* [U] a type of rough grass that grows easily in LAWNS and is difficult to get rid of

crabs /kræbz/ *n* [(*the*) P] the condition of having a kind of LOUSE (**crab louse**) in the hair around the sexual organs

crab·wise /ˈkræbwaɪz/ also **crab·ways** /-weɪz/– *adv* sideways, esp. in an awkward manner

crack[1] /kræk/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) break without dividing into separate parts; split: *Don't pour hot water into the glass or it will crack.* | *The window was cracked but not broken.* –see BREAK (USAGE) **2** [I;T (OPEN)] to (cause to) break open: *to crack nuts* | *I cracked two eggs into a frying-pan.* **3** [I;T] to (cause to) make a sudden loud sharp sound: *The whip cracked threateningly.* **4** [I] (of a person's voice) to change suddenly in level, loudness, etc.: *His voice cracked with emotion.* **5** [I;T] to (cause to) hit with a sudden hard blow: *The boy fell and cracked his head against the wall.* **6** [I (UP)] to lose control or effectiveness as a result of difficulties or pressure; fail: *The whole political system is beginning to crack up.* | *The prisoner is refusing to give information, but he may crack under torture.* **7** [T] *infml* to make (a joke) **8** [T] to discover the secret of (a CODE[1] (1)) **9** [T] *infml* to open (a bottle) for drinking **10 crack a smile** *AmE infml* to smile, esp. after being upset or angry **11 crack open the books** *AmE infml* to begin studying **12 cracked up to be** *infml* generally believed to be or regarded as being: *This pub isn't all it's cracked up to be – the beer's terrible.* **13 get cracking**‖also **get weaving** *BrE– infml* **a** to start working hard at something **b** to go or leave quickly

crack down *phr v* [I (**on**)] to take strong and severe action to deal with something bad: *The police are cracking down on illegal gambling.* –see also CRACKDOWN

crack on *phr v BrE infml* [I (**with**)] to continue working very hard (on something)

crack up *phr v infml* **1** [I] to suffer a sudden and complete loss of physical or esp. mental strength and ability: *Now, where did I put those papers this time? I think I must be cracking up!* –see also CRACKUP **2** [I] to laugh: *We cracked up when he did his George Bush imitation.* **3** [T(**crack** sbdy. ↔ **up**)] to cause to laugh: *She really cracks me up with her bored housewife jokes.*

crack[2] *n* **1** a line of division caused by splitting; very thin mark or opening caused by breaking, but not into separate parts: *There's a crack in this cup|in the window.* | *Small cracks were found in the aircraft's wings.* | (fig.) *The door was opened just a crack.* **2** a loud sharp sound: *a crack of thunder* | *the crack of a pistol* **3** a sudden sharp blow esp. caused accidentally: *I got a nasty crack on the head when I went through that low door* **4** [(**at** *usu. sing.*)] *infml* an attempt: *I've never done this before, but I'll have a crack (at it).* **5** [(**about**)] a clever quick joke or remark: *He's always making cracks about my big feet.* **6** a sudden change in the level or loudness of the voice **7 at the crack of dawn** very early in the morning **8 the crack of doom** *old-fash, often humor* the end of the world **9 a fair crack of the whip** *BrE infml* a fair chance of doing something –see also **paper over the cracks** (PAPER[2])

crack[3] *adj* [A] of very high quality or skill: *a crack commando unit* | *a crack shot|marksman* (=someone who always hits what they shoot at)

crack[4] *n* [U] *sl* an extremely pure form of the drug COCAINE, which is illegally taken for pleasure. It is an ADDICTIVE drug and is a big social problem in some countries, esp. the US.

crack·brained /ˈkrækbreɪnd/ *adj* foolish; CRAZY: *a crack-brained idea*

crack·down /ˈkrækdaʊn/ *n* [(**on**)] action taken to stop or discourage a bad activity: *a crackdown on drunken driving* —see also CRACK **down**

cracked /krækt/ *adj* [F] *infml* foolish; slightly mad

crack·er /ˈkrækəʳ/ *n* **1** a small thin unsweetened BISCUIT; a CREAM CRACKER or SODA CRACKER: *I'm not really hungry – I'll just have some crackers and cheese.* **2** a FIRECRACKER **3** (in Britain) a tube of brightly coloured paper which makes a harmless exploding sound when pulled apart, usu. containing a small gift and a joke. Crackers are used esp. at parties, Christmas dinner, etc. —see also extra information and picture on page 215 **4** *BrE infml* someone or something that is very good; used esp. of a very attractive woman **5** *AmE derog* a poor white person from the American South

Crack·er·jack /ˈkrædədʒæk‖-kər-/ a popular British children's television programme of the 1960s which gave Crackerjack pencils as prizes to children and always began with the words: "It's Friday, it's five to five, and it's Crackerjack!"

Cracker Jack /ˈ·· ·/ *n* [U] *tdmk* sweetened POPCORN that is sold in a small box with a prize inside. It is very popular with children in America.

crack·ers /ˈkrækəz‖-ərz/ *adj* [F] *BrE infml* (of a person) mad: *I'm not going to lend him money – do you think I'm crackers?*

crack·ing /ˈkrækɪŋ/ *adj* [A] very fast or good

crack·le /ˈkrækəl/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) make small sharp repeated sounds: *The fire crackled.* | *Why is the radio crackling so much?* | (fig.) *The crowd crackled with excitement.* —**crackle** *n* [S] : *the crackle of dry twigs under our feet* —**crackly** *adj*

crack·ling /ˈkræklɪŋ/ *n* [U] **1** the sound of something that crackles: *the crackling of the fire* **2** the hard easily broken brown skin of cooked PORK

crack·pot /ˈkrækpɒt‖-pɑːt/ *adj, n infml, often humor* (typical of) a person with very strange or mad ideas: *The man's a complete crackpot.* | *another of his crackpot ideas*

cracks·man /ˈkræksmən/ *n* **-men** /mən/ *old-fash* a person who steals things by opening SAFES[2]

crack·up /ˈkræk-ʌp/ *n infml* a sudden failure or loss of control of the mind and feelings; BREAKDOWN

Crad·dock /ˈkrædək/, **Fanny** (1910–) an English cook who wrote many books on cookery and appeared on television with her husband showing people how to make different dishes

cra·dle[1] /ˈkreɪdl/ *n* **1** [C] a small bed for a baby, esp. one made so that it can be moved gently from side to side: *She was rocking the cradle.* —see picture at BED **2** [C (**of**) *usu. sing.*] the place where something began; place of origin: *Ancient Greece was the cradle of Western European culture.* **3** [*the*+S] the earliest years of one's life: *to live in the same village* **from the cradle to the grave** (=all through one's life) | *In future, people will place more importance on the* **cradle-to-grave** *lifetime of products.* **4** [C] *BrE* ‖ **scaffold** *AmE*– a frame for supporting something being built or repaired, or for doing certain jobs: *Window cleaners are pulled up and down tall buildings on cradles.* —see also CAT'S CRADLE

cradle[2] *v* [T] to hold gently as if in a cradle: *John cradled the baby in his arms.*

cradle-snatch /ˈ·· ·/ *v* [I] *infml* to have a sexual relationship with someone who is a lot younger than oneself: *I hear you're going out with Jack's daughter—there you go, cradle-snatching again!* —~**er** *n*

craft[1] /krɑːft‖kræft/ *n* **1** [C] (a job or trade needing) skill, esp. with one's hands: *the ancient craft of making stained-glass windows* | *the jeweller's craft* | *traditional village crafts* **2** [C] all the members of a particular trade or profession as a group **3** [U] skill in deceiving people; GUILE: *He used a certain amount of craft to make the sale.*

craft[2] *n* **craft** **1** a boat or ship: *The harbour was full of pleasure craft.* **2** an aircraft or spacecraft

craft[3] *v* [T *often pass.*] *esp. AmE* to make using skill, esp. by hand: *a carefully crafted belt* | *a beautifully crafted film*

-craft see WORD FORMATION

crafts·man /ˈkrɑːftsmən‖ˈkræ-/ **crafts·wo·man** /-ˌwʊmən/*fem.*— *n* **-men** /mən/ a person who is skilled in a CRAFT[1]: *furniture made by the finest craftsmen* —~**ship** *n* [U]

craft·y /ˈkrɑːfti‖ˈkræf-/ *adj* cleverly deceitful; CUNNING: *a crafty idea|politician* —**-ily** *adv* —**-iness** *n* [U]

crag /kræg/ *n* a high steep rough rock or mass of rocks

crag·gy /ˈkrægi/ *adj* steep and rough; having many crags: *craggy hills* | (fig.) *his craggy face* (=attractive in a rough way)

cram /kræm/ *v* **-mm-** **1** [T+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] to force into a small space; STUFF: *to cram people into a railway carriage* | *hungry children cramming food down their throats* | *a busy programme, with three meetings crammed into one morning* **2** [T (**with**)] to fill (something) too full: *The box was crammed with letters.* | *A huge crowd of people crammed the stadium to watch the game.* **3 a** [I (**for**)] to prepare oneself for an examination by studying very hard and quickly **b** [T] to prepare (someone) for an examination in this way

Cram, Steve /stiːv/ (1960–) an English runner who broke three world records in 1985

cram-full /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *adj* [F (**of**)] *infml* very full

cram·mer /ˈkræməʳ/ *n old-fash, usu. infml* a special school or book that prepares people quickly for an examination. It is generally thought that students who need a crammer are either lazy or not very clever.

cramp[1] /kræmp/ *n* [C (*esp. AmE*);U (*esp. BrE*)] severe pain from the sudden tightening of a muscle, which makes movement difficult: *The swimmer suddenly got cramp|got a cramp and had to be lifted from the water.* —see also CRAMPS

cramp[2] *v* [T] **1** to limit or prevent the movement, growth, or development of; RESTRICT: *Her education was cramped by her lack of money.* **2** to fasten tightly with a CRAMP[3] **3 cramp someone's style** *infml* to prevent someone from doing as well as they could, or as they wish, usu. simply by being near them: *I'll leave you alone with Jenny—I wouldn't want to cramp your style!*

cramp[3] *n* **1** also **cramp i·ron** /ˈ· ··/– a metal bar bent at both ends used for holding together pieces of wood, metal, etc. **2** a CLAMP[1]

cramped /kræmpt/ *adj* **1** [(**for**)] limited in space: *a cramped little office* | *cramped living conditions* | *We're a bit cramped for space in this little house.* **2** (of writing) written too closely together

cram·pon /ˈkræmpən/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] also **climbing iron**– a metal frame with sharp points (SPIKES) underneath, fastened to the bottom of boots to make climbing less difficult, esp. on ice

cramps /kræmps/ *n* [P] sharp pains in the stomach, esp. (*AmE*) the pains women often experience during MENSTRUATION

cran·ber·ry /ˈkrænbəri‖-beri/ *n* a small red sour-tasting berry, used esp. to make a sweet thick liquid to be eaten with certain meats. **Cranberry sauce** is often served with turkey at Thanksgiving in the US. —see picture at BERRY

crane[1] /kreɪn/ *n* **1** a machine for lifting and moving heavy objects by means of a very strong rope or wire fastened to a long movable arm: *We used a crane to lift the piano into the theatre.* **2** a tall waterbird with very long legs and neck

crane[2] *v* [I;T] to stretch out (one's neck) to get a better view: *Jane craned her neck to look for her mother in the crowd.* | *The children at the back craned forward to see what was happening.*

Crane, Ich·a·bod /ˈɪkəbɒd ‖ -bɑːd/ a character in the short story *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* by Washington Irving

crane fly /ˈ· ·/ *n fml* an insect with very long legs; DADDY LONGLEGS

cra·ni·um /ˈkreɪniəm/ *n* **-niums** *or* **-nia** /niə/ *med* the bony framework of the human or animal head; part of the SKULL that covers the brain —**-al** *adj*

crank[1] /kræŋk/ *n* **1** an apparatus, such as a handle fixed at right angles to a rod, for changing movement in a straight line into circular movement **2** *infml, often humor* a person with very unusual and strongly-held ideas, often concerning food and health, esp. ideas that

other people think are very foolish: *She's a real crank; she only eats brown rice and nuts.* **3** *AmE infml* a bad-tempered person; GROUCH

crank[2] *v* [T(UP)] to cause to move by turning a crank: *to crank an engine*

crank sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] *infml, esp. AmE* to produce in large amounts, as if by machinery: *He cranks out detective stories at the rate of three or four a year.*

crank·shaft /ˈkræŋkʃɑːft‖-ʃæft/ *n* a rod that turns or is driven by a crank, esp. in a car engine

crank·y /ˈkræŋki/ *adj infml* **1** *BrE* very strange; odd; ECCENTRIC: *a cranky old man | cranky ideas* **2** (of a machine or apparatus) unsteady; shaky; in need of repair **3** *AmE* bad-tempered: *a cranky baby/old lady*

Cran·mer /ˈkrænməʳ/, **Thomas** (1489–1556) an English churchman and Archbishop of Canterbury who supported Henry VIII and was put to death by Mary I, by burning

cran·ny /ˈkræni/ *n esp. humor or lit* a small narrow opening in a wall, rock, etc.; small crack: *a mouse hiding in a cranny in the stone wall* —see also **nooks and crannies** (NOOK) —**-nied** *adj*

crap[1] /kræp/ *n taboo sl* **1** [U] solid waste matter passed from the bowels **2** [S] an act of passing waste matter from the bowels: *to have a crap* **3** [U] something worthless or unwanted that does not deserve serious attention: *His speech was just a load of (old) crap. | Clear all this crap off the table.* —see also CRAPS

crap[2] *v* **-pp-** [I] *taboo sl* to pass waste matter from the bowels

crap out *phr v* [I] *AmE* **1** to lose at CRAPS **2** *infml* to stop working and become unusable: *My car crapped out this morning; I had to take the bus to work.*

crape /kreɪp/ *n* [U] **1** CREPE (1) **2** black material worn as a sign of grief at someone's death. People do not usu. wear crape now, although many people do wear black clothes when they go to a funeral.

crap·py /ˈkræpi/ *adj sl* of very low quality: *a crappy idea*

craps /kræps/ *n* [U] an American game played with two DICE for money: *Let's* **shoot craps.** (=play this game) — **crap** *n* [A] : *a crap player*

crash[1] /kræʃ/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) have a sudden, violent, and noisy accident: *The car crashed into a tree and burst into flames. | John crashed his car last night. | The plane crashed shortly after take-off.* **2** [I+*adv/prep*] to move violently and noisily: *The angry elephant crashed through the forest.* **3** [I;T] to (cause to) fall or hit a surface noisily and violently, esp. breaking into pieces: *She crashed the plates angrily down on the table. | big waves crashing against the rocks* **4** [I] to make a sudden loud noise: *The thunder/drums crashed dramatically.* **5** [I;T] (in COMPUTERS) to (cause to) fail so that no further work can be done: *The computer/We crashed at ten this morning and haven't been up since.* **6** [I] (of a business or an organization concerned with money) to fail suddenly; COLLAPSE: *The New York Stock Exchange crashed in 1929.* **7** [T] *infml for* GATECRASH **8** [I (OUT)] *sl* to spend the night; sleep: *Can I crash on your floor tonight?* **9** [I] *AmE sl* to COME **down** (3) (=stop feeling the effects of a drug) in a very unpleasant way: *They really crashed on that acid they took.*

crash[2] *n* **1** a violent vehicle accident: *There was a serious car/train/plane crash this morning.* **2** a sudden loud noise made e.g. by a violent blow, fall, break, etc.: *a crash of thunder | the crash of breaking glass* **3** a sudden usu. unexpected and unexplained failure of a computer or computer system **4** a sudden severe business failure: *No one was prepared for the crash.* **5 the Crash of 1929** also **the Great Crash** the failure of the New York Stock Exchange in 1929 that was the beginning of a severe world DEPRESSION

crash[3] *adj* [A] needing great effort to reach the desired results quickly: *He wanted to lose weight so he went on a* **crash diet.** *| a crash programme of railway modernization*

crash[4] *adv* [+*adv/prep*] with a crash: *The chandelier landed crash on the floor.*

crash bar·ri·er /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a strong fence or wall built to keep vehicles and/or people apart where there is a possibility of an accident: *crash barriers down the middle of the motorway* —compare CRUSH BARRIER

crash course /ˈ· ·/ *n* a course of lessons intended to teach a skill, language, etc., quickly: *I'm taking a crash course in French.*

crash-dive /ˈ· ·/ *v* [I] (of a SUBMARINE) to sink quickly to a great depth —**crash dive** *n*

crash hel·met /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a very strong protective head covering (HELMET) worn by racing car drivers, motorcycle riders, etc. In Britain and in most US states it is illegal to ride a motorcycle without wearing a crash helmet — see picture at HELMET

crash·ing /ˈkræʃɪŋ/ *adj* [A] *infml* (of something bad) very great; complete (esp. in the phrase **a crashing bore**)

crash-land /ˈ· ·/ *v* [I;T] to crash or cause (a plane) to crash in a controlled way so that as little damage as possible is done —**crash landing** /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n*

crass /kræs/ *adj fml* showing great stupidity and a complete lack of feeling or respect for others: *crass behaviour/ignorance/insensitivity* — ~**ly** *adv* — ~**ness** *n* [U]

Crat·chit /ˈkrætʃɪt/, **Bob** a character in Dickens' book *A Christmas Carol* who is very poor and has a young son who is very ill, but whose goodness and honesty finally get their reward

crate[1] /kreɪt/ *n* **1** a box or frame, esp. made of wood, for storing or carrying fruit, bottles, etc.: *a milk crate* **2** [(**of**)] also **crate·ful** /-fʊl/ — the amount that a crate contains: *We sold ten crates of lemonade in two hours.* **3** *old-fash infml,* a very old car or plane

crate[2] *v* [T (UP)] to pack into a crate

cra·ter /ˈkreɪtəʳ/ *n* **1** the round bowl-shaped mouth of a VOLCANO **2** a round hole in a surface formed by an explosion, falling METEOR, etc.: *a bomb crater | craters on the moon*

cra·vat /krəˈvæt/ *BrE* ‖ **ascot** *AmE*— *n* a wide piece of material loosely folded and worn round the neck by men. It is generally thought of as a piece of clothing worn by upper-class people, esp. when wearing informal clothes —compare TIE[1] (1)

crave /kreɪv/ *v* **1** [I (**for, after**); T] to have a very strong almost uncontrollable desire for (something, esp. something bad): *I was craving for a cigarette. | He craved stardom.* **2** [T] *fml or pomp* to ask seriously for: *May I crave your attention?*

cra·ven /ˈkreɪvən/ *adj fml derog* completely lacking courage; COWARDLY — ~**ly** *adv* — ~**ness** *n* [U]

crav·ing /ˈkreɪvɪŋ/ *n* [(**for**)] a very strong, almost uncontrollable desire: *a craving for sweets* [+*to-v*] *a craving to have a cigarette* —see DESIRE[2] (USAGE)

▶ CULTURAL NOTE If a woman says she has a craving for something, people often joke that she must be PREGNANT (= going to have a baby), as cravings, esp. for odd or unusual things, are thought of in this connection. ◀

craw·dad /ˈkrɔːdæd/ also **craw·fish** /ˈkrɔːfɪʃ/ *n AmE infml* CRAYFISH

Craw·ford /ˈkrɔːfəd‖-fərd/, **Joan** /dʒəʊn/ (1908–77) an American film actress who generally played strong women and who was one of America's top actresses; her daughter wrote a book about her that criticized her strongly.

Crawford, Mi·chael /ˈmaɪkəl/ (1942–) an English actor and entertainer, known esp. for his television SERIES *Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em*

crawl[1] /krɔːl/ *v* [I] **1** to move slowly with the body close to the ground, or on the hands and knees: *The baby crawled across the room. | There's an insect crawling down your sleeve. |* (fig.) *The traffic crawled along at ten miles an hour.* **2** [(**with**)] to be completely covered by insects, worms, etc.: *The kitchen was crawling with ants.* | (fig.) *The town was crawling with police.* **3** [(**to**)] *infml derog* to try to win the favour of someone in a powerful position by being too nice to them: *She got her job by crawling to the chief engineer.*

crawl[2] *n* **1** [S] a very slow movement or speed: *traffic moving at a crawl* **2** [(*the*) S;U] a rapid way of swimming while lying on one's stomach, moving first one arm and then the other over one's head —see also PUB-CRAWL

crawl·er /ˈkrɔːləʳ/ *n* **1** *derog sl* a person who tries to win the favour of someone in a powerful position by being too nice to them; SYCOPHANT **2** something that goes slowly, esp. a heavy vehicle —see also CRAWLERS, KERB CRAWLER, NIGHT CRAWLER

crawler lane /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n BrE* a part of a road, esp. a MOTORWAY, for slow vehicles

crawl·ers /ˈkrɔːləz‖-ərz/ *n* [P] ROMPERS

cray·fish /ˈkreɪˌfɪʃ/ also **crawdad, crawfish**– *n* **-fish** *or* **-fishes** [C;U] (the flesh of) a small LOBSTER-like animal that lives in rivers and streams –see picture at LOBSTER

cray·on[1] /ˈkreɪən, -ɒn‖-ɑːn, -ən/ *n* a stick of coloured WAX or CHALK used for writing or drawing, esp. on paper: *children's crayons | a packet of crayons*

crayon[2] *v* [I;T] to draw with a crayon

craze /kreɪz/ *n* [(**for**)] a very popular fashion that usu. only lasts for a very short time: *This computer game is the latest craze among the young in Japan.*

crazed /kreɪzd/ *adj* [(**with**)] driven mad or made extremely angry: *a crazed expression | He was crazed with grief.*

cra·zy /ˈkreɪzi/ *adj infml* **1** mad; foolish; INSANE: *You're crazy to go out in this weather. | a crazy idea | This noise is driving me crazy. | He has a crazy sister in the state asylum.* **2** [F+**about**] wildly excited; very keen or interested: *You know I'm crazy about you. | She's just crazy about dancing.* **3 a crazy mixed-up kid** *infml humor* a young person who feels confused and uncertain what to do in life **4 like crazy** wildly and very actively: *to work like crazy* –**-zily** *adv* –**-ziness** *n* [U]

crazy bone /ˈ·· ·/ *n AmE for* FUNNY BONE

Crazy Gang /ˈ·· ˌ·/, **The** a group of British COMEDIANS (=a man who makes people laugh) who performed jokes and songs on stage during the 1930s

crazy golf /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] a game like GOLF in which players hit the ball through various silly and amusing OBSTACLES. Crazy golf courses are mainly found in SEASIDE towns in Britain.

Crazy Horse /ˌ·· ˈ·/ (1842–77) a Native American chief of the Sioux, who together with Sitting Bull defeated General Custer and his army in a famous battle at Little Bighorn

crazy pav·ing /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [U] *esp. BrE* irregular pieces of stone fitted together to make a path or flat place

crazy quilt /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n AmE* a QUILT made from small irregularly shaped pieces of cloth sewn together

creak /kriːk/ *v* [I] to make the sound of a badly-oiled door when it opens: *The floorboards in the old house creaked noisily. | creaking with age* | (fig.) *The tax system is creaking under its increasingly heavy workload.* –**creak** *n*

creak·y /ˈkriːki/ *adj* that creaks: *a creaky old chair* –**-ily** *adv* –**-iness** *n* [U]

cream[1] /kriːm/ *n* **1** [U] the thick yellowish-white liquid that rises to the top of milk. Cream is thought of as very nice but unhealthy so it is kept for special occasions: *Have some cream in your coffee. | At the dairy they skim the cream off the milk. | strawberries and cream* –see also DOUBLE CREAM, SINGLE CREAM, SOUR CREAM **2** [C;U] a food containing this or a similar soft smooth substance: *chocolate creams | cream of chicken soup* **3** [C;U] a mixture made thick and soft like cream: *face cream* (=to soften one's skin) | *cream cleaner* (=for cleaning the kitchen, bathroom, etc.) | *Put some of this cream on that burn.* – see also COLD CREAM **4** [*the* (**of**)] the best part: *The wedding was attended by the cream of New York society. | Naturally, our personnel department selects only* **the cream of the crop**. (=the best people)

cream[2] *adj* yellowish-white: *a cream dress/suit* –**cream** *n* [U]

cream[3] *v* [T] **1** to make into a thick soft mixture: *Cream the butter and sugar together. | creamed potatoes* **2** to take cream from the surface of (milk) **3** *sl, esp. AmE* to defeat completely

cream sbdy./sthg. ↔ **off** *phr v* [T] to remove (the best): *We cream off the best athletes and put them in a special squad. | The private bus companies will cream off the most profitable routes from the state-run bus service.*

cream out *phr v* [I] *AmE infml* to fall or go off course, esp. when skiing (SKI[2])

cream cheese /ˌ· ˈ·‖ˈ· ·/ *n* [U] soft white smooth cheese made from milk and sometimes cream

cream crack·er /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* also **cracker** *infml– BrE* a light, unsweetened BISCUIT often eaten with cheese

cream·er /ˈkriːməʳ/ *n* a small JUG for holding cream

cream·e·ry /ˈkriːməri/ *n* a place where milk, butter, cream, and cheese are produced or sold; DAIRY

cream of tar·tar /ˌ· · ˈ··/ *n* [U] TARTAR[1] (3)

cream of wheat /ˌ· · ˈ·/ *n* [C;U] *tdmk* (*often cap.*) (a bowl of) a hot CEREAL (2) made from finely crushed WHEAT

cream puff /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* a light hollow pastry filled with whipped cream or CUSTARD

cream tea /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* (in Britain) a light meal taken in the early afternoon consisting of small cakes (SCONES), jam, and cream usu. also with a pot of tea. It is considered to be typically English and is often something people have when on holiday: *a Devon cream tea*

cream·y /ˈkriːmi/ *adj* **1** containing cream: *creamy milk* **2** thick, soft, and smooth like cream: *a rich creamy liquid | creamy soap* –**-iness** *n* [U]

crease[1] /kriːs/ *n* **1** a line made on cloth, paper, etc., by folding, crushing, or pressing: *You've got a crease in your dress where you've been sitting. | He had razor-sharp creases in his trousers.* (=the trousers were very carefully pressed) **2** a line marked on the ground to show special areas or positions in certain games, esp. cricket –see picture at CRICKET

crease[2] *v* **1** [I;T] to make a line or lines appear on (a garment, paper, cloth, etc.) by folding, crushing, or pressing: *She wanted to wear her black dress but it was too creased. | a material that creases easily | His brow was creased in concentration.* (=he was thinking hard) **2** [T (UP)] *BrE infml* to cause to laugh a lot: *I was creased up with laughter.*

cre·ate /kriˈeɪt/ *v* **1** [T] to cause (something new) to exist; produce (something new): *Some people believe God created the world. | The project will create up to 60 new jobs. | to create a stir/a sensation* (=to cause great surprise and interest) | *The regulations are so complicated they will only create confusion. | This decision creates a dangerous precedent.* **2** [T+*obj*+*n*] to appoint (someone) to a special rank or position: *He was created Prince of Wales in a formal ceremony.* **3** [I] *BrE infml* to be noisily angry: *He really created when he found I'd broken the window!*

cre·a·tion /kriˈeɪʃən/ *n* **1** [U (**of**)] the act of creating: *a report proposing the creation of an independent Scottish parliament | a job-creation scheme* **2** [C] something created; something produced by human invention or imagination: *an artist's creations | the latest creations* (=fashionable clothes, etc.) *from Paris* **3** [U] the whole universe: *Are we the only thinking species in the whole of creation? | (AmE) I've looked all over creation for my glasses and I can't find them anywhere.*

Creation [*the*] (in the Christian religion) God's act of creating the Universe, the Earth, and all living things on Earth. The story of the Creation is told in the book of Genesis in the Bible.

►CULTURAL NOTE According to the Bible story, God made the Universe, the Earth, and all the animals. He then made Adam, the first man, out of dust, and Eve, the first woman, from one of Adam's RIBS. This took God six days, and on the seventh day he rested. –see also FALL◄

cre·a·tion·is·m /kriˈeɪʃənɪzəm/ *n* [U] the belief that God created the universe in the way described in the Bible –see also CREATION SCIENCE –**-ist** *n* : *Creationists don't believe in Darwinian evolution.*

creation sci·ence /·ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [U] an attempt to give a scientific explanation to Creation, as described in the Bible, by people who do not accept the idea of EVOLUTION

cre·a·tive /kriˈeɪtɪv/ *adj apprec* **1** producing new and original ideas and things; imaginative and inventive: *creative thinking | a very creative musician* **2** resulting from newness of thought or expression: *his creative designs for the new college building* – ~**ly** *adv*

creative ac·count·ing /·ˌ·· ·ˈ··/ *n* [U] (in business) the art of changing accounts to achieve a more desirable set of figures in a way that is misleading but not illegal

cre·a·tiv·i·ty /ˌkriːeɪˈtɪvəti/ also **cre·a·tive·ness** /kriˈeɪtɪvnəs/– *n* [U] *apprec* the ability to produce new and original ideas and things; imagination and inventiveness: *an education system that lets children use their creativity*

cre·a·tor /kriˈeɪtəʳ/ a person who CREATES (1)

Creator *n* [*the*] God

crea·ture /ˈkriːtʃəʳ/ *n* **1** a living being of any kind, but not a plant; an animal, bird, fish, etc.: *The crocodile is a strange-looking creature.* | *creatures from outer space* **2** (often used in expressions of feeling, esp. sympathy) a person of the stated kind: *The poor creature had no home, family, or friends.* | *He is* **a creature of habit.** (=a person with very fixed habits) **3** [(**of**)] a person whose rank or position is dependent on total obedience to another: *a creature of the military government* **4 all creatures great and small** *quote* the second line of a HYMN —see also ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

creature com·forts /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [P] food, clothes, warmth and other things that increase physical comfort

crèche /kreʃ‖kreʃ,kreɪʃ/ *n* **1** *BrE* ‖ **day-care center, nursery** *AmE*– a place, e.g. provided at a place of work, where babies and small children are cared for while their parents work. Crèches are sometimes provided at sports centres and events such as CONFERENCES, but they are still quite rare —compare NURSERY (1), PLAYGROUP **2** *AmE for* CRIB[1] (3)

Cre·da /ˈkriːdə/ *tdmk* a British company that makes electrical goods for the home, e.g. cookers

cre·dence /ˈkriːdəns/ *n* [U] *fml* acceptance as true; belief: *The public does not* **give much credence to** *the government's promises.*

cre·den·tials /krɪˈdenʃəlz/ *n* [P] **1** a letter or other written proof of a person's position, good character, etc.: *The new ambassador presented his credentials to the court.* **2** anything that proves a person's abilities, qualities, or suitability: *Both candidates for the job have excellent credentials.* | *The new finance minister has very sound credentials as an economist.*

cred·i·bil·i·ty /ˌkredɨˈbɪlɨti/ *n* [U] the quality of deserving belief and trust; being credible: *If we don't keep our promises, we'll* **lose credibility** *with the public.* | *The Chernobyl accident has undermined/damaged the credibility of the nuclear power industry.* —see also STREET-CREDIBILITY

credibility gap /ˌ··ˈ··· ·/ *n* the difference between what someone, esp. a politician, says and what they really mean or do

cred·i·ble /ˈkredɨbəl/ *adj* deserving to be believed, trusted, or taken seriously: *a credible story* | *a barely* (=only just) *credible excuse* | *a credible defence policy* —see also INCREDIBLE —**-bly** *adv*

cred·it[1] /ˈkredɨt/ *n* **1** [U] a system of buying goods or services and paying for them later. People generally use this system to buy large or expensive things such as furniture or electrical goods which they want immediately, but sometimes find difficult to pay for at once. Businesses like the system because it encourages people to spend or borrow money: *If you can't afford to pay cash, buy the furniture* **on credit.** | *six months' credit* | *This shop gives/offers interest-free credit.* —compare HIRE PURCHASE **2** [U] the quality of being likely to repay debts and being trusted in money matters: *Her credit is good.* —see also CREDIT RATING **3** [U] (the amount of) money in a person's bank account, as at a bank: *My account is* **in credit.** (=there is money in it) —compare DEBIT[1] (2) **4** [U] belief or trust in the truth or rightness of something: *Do you place any credit in the government's story?* | *The theory is gaining credit* (=becoming more popular) *with economists.* **5** [U (**for**)] public approval or praise given to someone because of something they have done: *She was given no credit for her invention.* | *The government is trying to claim the full credit for the fall in prices.* **6** [C (**to**) *usu. sing.*] a cause of honour: *You're a credit to your team.* | *Our armed forces* **do us credit.** (=are a credit to us) —opposite **discredit** **7** [C] (esp. in the US) a completed unit of a student's work that forms part of a course, esp. at a university: *She hasn't enough credits to get her degree.* **8 to someone's credit: a** in someone's favour; in a way that brings honour to someone: *The King, to his great credit, opposed the establishment of a military government.* **b** to/in someone's name; belonging to or done by someone: *She's not yet 30, but already has five books to her credit!* (=she has written five books) —see also CREDITS, LETTER OF CREDIT

credit[2] *v* [T *not in progressive forms*] **1** *esp. BrE* to accept as true; believe: *Their claim/statement is rather hard to credit.* | (shows surprise) *Well, would you credit it – he's actually arrived on time!* **2** [(**to**)] to add to an account: *The money/cheque has been credited to your account.* —compare DEBIT[2]

credit sbdy. **with** sthg. *phr v* [T] to accept that (someone) has (a quality) or is responsible for (an action); give credit to: *I credit him with a certain amount of sense.* | *She is credited with having saved the company from bankruptcy.*

cred·i·ta·ble /ˈkredɨtəbəl/ *adj* deserving praise or approval: *a creditable attempt to establish peace* | *a very creditable achievement* —opposite **discreditable** —**-bly** *adv*

credit ac·count /ˈ·· ·ˌ·/ *BrE* ‖**charge account** *AmE*– *n* an account with a shop which allows one to take goods at once and pay for them later

credit card /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a small plastic card which is used instead of money to pay for goods and services from shops, travel companies, petrol stations, etc. The cost is charged to one's account and paid later: *Do you take credit cards?* | *We accept all major credit cards.* | *an alarming rise in credit card fraud* —compare CHARGE CARD, CHEQUE CARD, DEBIT CARD

credit con·trol /ˈ·· ·ˌ·/ *n* [U] *tech* a business department which decides how much CREDIT a new customer can have, and tries to make sure that money owed to the company is paid at the right time

credit crunch /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* CREDIT SQUEEZE

credit lim·it /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* the most money that a customer can spend on credit, or that a person is allowed to borrow from a CREDIT CARD company, etc.: *a credit limit of £250*

credit note /ˈ·· ·/ *BrE* ‖ also **credit voucher** *AmE*– *n* a note given by a shop when goods have been returned, allowing one to buy other goods of the same value: *I'm afraid we don't give cash refunds, but you can have a credit note.*

cred·i·tor /ˈkredɨtəʳ/ *n* a person or organization to whom money is owed —compare DEBTOR

credit rat·ing /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* an opinion about how likely a person or business is to repay their debts. Credit ratings of a business are based on the company's value and performance, and are determined by other companies who specialize in finding this information. Credit ratings for people are determined by rather secretive companies who look at how a person has handled debt in the past.

cred·its /ˈkredɨts/ also **credit ti·tles** /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *fml*– *n* [P] the names of the actors and other people responsible for a cinema or television show, which appear in a list at the beginning or end

credit squeeze /ˈ·· ·/ also **credit crunch**– *n* a period during which the government makes the borrowing of money difficult, usu. in an effort to reduce spending and increase saving

credit trans·fer /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [C;U] a way of moving money to a different bank account without using a cheque, e.g. by STANDING ORDER

credit u·nion /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* (esp. in the US) a COOPERATIVE (2) that operates like a bank for its members and lends them money at low rates of interest. Credit unions are often formed by the employees of a large company, or members of some other large organization.

credit vouch·er /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n AmE for* CREDIT NOTE

cred·it·wor·thy /ˈkredɨtwɜːðiǁ-wɜːr-/ *adj* likely to pay debts; having a good CREDIT RATING: *Creditworthy customers may buy on account.* —**-thiness** *n* [U]

cre·do /ˈkriːdəʊ, ˈkreɪ-/ *n* **-dos** a formal statement of beliefs; CREED

cred·u·lous /ˈkredjʊləsǁ-dʒə-/ *adj* too willing to believe, esp. without being given real proof —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness, credulity** /krɪˈdjuːlɨtiǁ-ˈduː-/ *n* [U] : *a far-fetched story that would stretch the credulity even of a child*

Cree /kriː/ *n* [U;C] (a member of) a TRIBE of Native Americans who live mainly in Canada and northern Montana —see NATIVE AMERICAN (CULTURAL NOTE)

creed /kriːd/ *n* **1** a system of beliefs or principles: *the Socialist creed* | *people of every colour and creed* (=esp. religion) **2** a formal statement of religious belief, esp. as said at certain church services

creek /kriːk/ *n* **1** *BrE* a long narrow body of water reaching from the sea, a lake, etc., into the land **2** *AmE* a small narrow stream **3 up the creek (without a paddle)** *infml* in trouble: *I was really up the creek when I lost my keys.*

Creek *n* [C;*the*+P] (a member of) a TRIBE of Native Americans formerly living in Georgia and Alabama –see also NATIVE AMERICAN (CULTURAL NOTE)

creel /kri:l/ *n* a basket for carrying fish

creep[1] /kri:p/ *v* **crept** /krept/ [I] **1** [+*adv/prep*] to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, esp. so as not to attract attention: *We crept upstairs so as not to wake the baby.* | *The cat was creeping silently towards the mouse.* | (fig.) *Old age is creeping up on me.* | (fig.) *The newspaper's circulation has crept up from 800,000 to almost a million* (fig.) *Mistakes start to creep in when you work too hard.* **2** to move with the body close to the ground: *The dog crept under the car to hide.* | *creeping insects* **3** to grow along the ground or a surface: *a creeping plant* **4** (of the skin) to have an unpleasant sensation, as if worms, insects, etc., are moving over it: *I hated that horror film – it really made my flesh creep.* –see also CREEPS

creep[2] *n* **1** [C] *sl* an unpleasant person, esp. one who tries to win the favour of people of higher rank, esp. by praising them insincerely **2** [U] *tech* the slow movement of loose soil, rocks, etc. –see also CREEPS

creep·er /'kri:pəʳ/ *n* a plant which climbs up trees and walls or grows along the ground

creep·ers /'kri:pəz‖-ərz/ *n* [P] *BrE* shoes with thick rubber bottoms. They are also known as **brothel creepers** and were esp. fashionable in the 1950s when they were worn esp. by TEDDY BOYS.

creeps /kri:ps/ *n* [*the*+P] *infml* an unpleasant sensation of fear: *The old castle* **gives me the creeps.** –see also CREEP[1] (4)

creep·y /'kri:pi/ *adj infml* causing or feeling an unpleasant sensation of fear: *a creepy story/old house* **–-ily** *adv* **–-iness** *n* [U]

creepy-crawl·y /ˌ·· '··/ *n infml, esp. BrE* a creeping insect

cre·mate /krɪ'meɪt‖'kri:meɪt/ *v* [T] to burn (the body of a dead person) at a funeral ceremony. In the past, most people used to be buried in the ground when they died, but now many people choose to be cremated instead. –see also ASHES **–-mation** /krɪ'meɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

crem·a·to·ri·um /ˌkremə'tɔ:riəm‖ˌkri:-/ also **crem·a·to·ry** /'kremətəri‖'kri:mətɔ:ri/ *esp. AmE– n* **-iums** *or* **-ia** /iə/ a building in which the bodies of dead people are cremated

crème car·a·mel /ˌkrem 'kærəməl, -mel/ *n* a sweet, yellowish-coloured food made from milk, eggs, and sugar which goes brown during cooking and forms a liquid on the outside when removed from its container

crème de la crème /ˌkrem də lɑ: 'krem/ [*the*] *Fr* the best, most experienced, most intelligent people

Crème de Menthe /ˌkrem də 'mɒnθ‖-'mɑ:nt/ *n* [U] a strong thick sweet green alcoholic drink, tasting of PEPPERMINT, usu. drunk from a small glass after a meal

Cre·mo·ra /krɪ'mɔ:rə/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a powdered substance added to coffee instead of cream or milk

cren·el·lat·ed *BrE* ‖ **crenelated** *AmE* /'krenəl-eɪtɪd/ *adj tech* protected by BATTLEMENTS: *a crenellated castle*

cre·ole /'kri:əʊl/ *n* (*often cap.*) **1** [C;U] an American or West Indian language, formed by the combination of a European language with one or more other languages – compare PIDGIN (1) **2** [C] a person descended from both Europeans and Africans **3** [C] a white person born in the West Indies or parts of Spanish America, or descended from the original French settlers in the southern US **4** [U] food prepared in the hot strong-tasting style of the southern US: *shrimp creole* **–creole** *adj*

cre·o·sote[1] /'kri:əsəʊt/ *n* [U] a thick brown strong-smelling oily liquid used for preserving wood

creosote[2] *v* [T] to paint with creosote

crepe , crêpe /kreɪp/ *n* **1** [U] also **crape**– light soft thin cloth, with a finely lined and folded surface, made from cotton, silk, wool, etc. **2** [U] also **crepe rub·ber** /ˌ· '··/ – tightly pressed rubber used esp. for making the bottoms of shoes: *crepe-soled shoes* **3** [C] a very thin PANCAKE (1) **4** [U] CREPE PAPER

crepe pa·per /ˌ· '··‖'· ˌ··/ also **crepe**– *n* [U] thin brightly coloured paper with a finely lined and folded surface, esp. used for making decorations

crêpes su·zette , crepes suzette /ˌkreɪp su:'zet/ *n* [P] a dish of thin PANCAKES with a thick orange liquid, served with a strong alcoholic drink, esp. BRANDY or CURAÇAO, which is often lit to make a flame at the table

crept /krept/ *past tense & participle of* CREEP

cre·pus·cu·lar /krɪ'pʌskjʊlə^{r}/ *adj* **1** *lit* of the time when day is changing into night or night into day; not bright; faint **2** *tech* (of an animal) active only during this time

cre·scen·do[1] /krə'ʃendəʊ/ *n* **-dos** **1** a piece of music which gradually becomes very loud –opposite **diminuendo** **2** *infml* a point of greatest excitement or urgency: *The demands for an election rose to a crescendo.*

crescendo[2] *adj* (of a piece of music) gradually becoming louder

cres·cent /'kresənt/ *n* **1** the curved shape of the moon during its first and last quarters, when it forms less than half a circle **2** something shaped like this, such as a curved row of houses or curved street: *an oriental crescent-shaped sword* **3** (*often cap.*) this shape as a sign of the Muslim religion: *medieval wars between Cross* (=Christianity) *and Crescent* (=Islam) –see also RED CRESCENT

crescent roll /'·· ˌ·/ *n AmE for* CROISSANT

crescent wrench /'·· ˌ·/ *n AmE* a spanner with parts that can be moved to hold things of different sizes –see picture at TOOL

cress /kres/ *n* [U] a very small plant whose sharp-tasting leaves are eaten raw: *a salad of* **mustard and cress** – see also WATERCRESS

Cres·si·da /'kresɪdə/ also **Cres·seid** /'kresɪd/– see TROILUS AND CRESSIDA

crest /krest/ *n* **1** a showy growth of feathers on top of a bird's head **2** a decoration like this worn, esp. in former times, on top of soldiers' HELMETS **3** [(**of**) *usu. sing.*] the top or highest point of something, esp. of a hill or a wave: *The path follows the crest of the hill for several miles.* | *The President is currently* **riding the crest of a wave** *of popularity.* (=is very popular at the present time) **4** a special picture used as a personal mark on letters, envelopes, etc., or above the shield on a COAT OF ARMS

Cres·ta Run /'krestə ˌrʌn/ [*the*] a deep, steep path with twists in it cut into the ice each year at St Moritz in Switzerland, for riding TOBOGGANS down

crest·ed /'krestɪd/ *adj* having a crest: *crested writing paper* | *a crested grebe* (=type of bird with a crest)

crest·fal·len /'krestˌfɔ:lən/ *adj* disappointed and sad; having lost one's self-confidence

Crete /kri:t/ an island in SE Greece in the E Mediterranean Sea. It is a popular tourist place. **–Cretan** *adj*

cret·in /'kretɪn‖'kri:tn/ *n* **1** *taboo sl* an extremely stupid person; an extremely offensive word **2** *med* a person whose development of mind and body has stopped in early childhood **– ~ous** *adj*

cret·onne /kre'tɒn, 'kretɒn‖'kri:tɑ:n, krɪ'tɑ:n/ *n* [U] heavy printed cotton cloth, used for curtains, etc.

cre·vasse /krɪ'væs/ *n* a deep open crack, esp. in thick ice: *The dog fell into the crevasse.* –see picture at MOUNTAIN

crev·ice /'krevɪs/ *n* a narrow crack or opening, esp. in rock

crew[1] /kru:/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] **1 a** all the people working on a ship, plane, spacecraft, etc.: *The plane crashed, killing all its passengers and crew.* **b** all these people except the officers: *The crew is/are waiting for instructions from the captain.* **2** a group of people working together: *a train track repair crew* | *the camera crew on a movie set* –see also GROUND CREW **3** a rowing team **4** *infml* a group or collection of people: *We're a happy crew in our office.* | *His friends are rather a* **motley crew.** (=a strange or unusual mixture of people)

crew[2] *v* [I;T] to act as a crew member on (a boat)

crew[3] *old use past tense of* CROW

crew cut /'· ·/ also **buzz** *AmE– n* a very closely cut style of hair

Crewe /kru:/ a town in Cheshire, NW England, which is an important railway centre

crew·el·work /'kru:əlwɜ:k‖-wɜ:rk/ *n* [U] EMBROIDERY using thick thread made from wool

crew·man /'kru:mən/ *n* **-men** /mən/ a member of a CREW[1] (1, 2, and 3): *Mr Pod shared the boat with six crewmen.*

crew neck /'· ·/ *n* a plain round neck on a jumper – compare V-NECK

Cricket

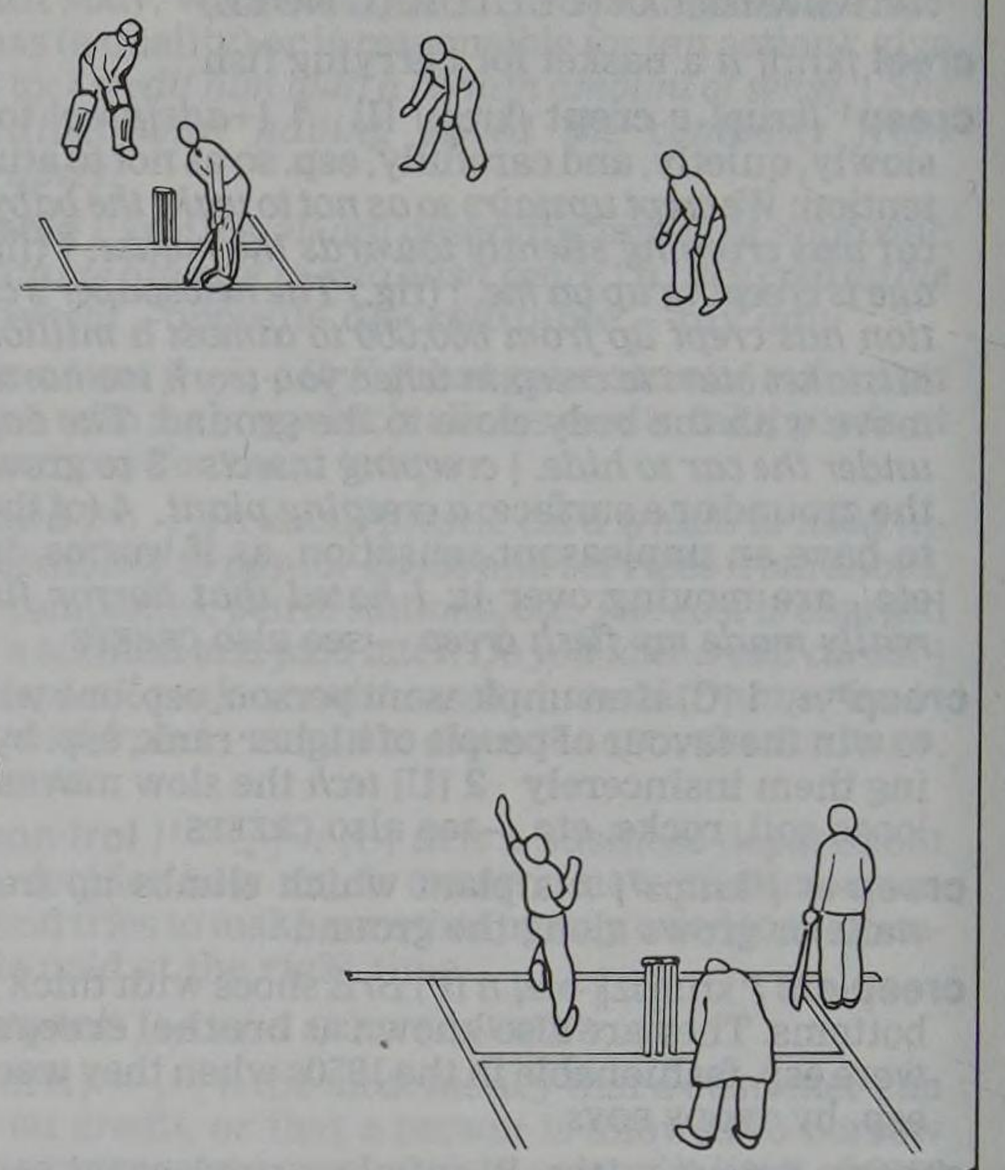
cricket

Cricket is a very popular sport in Britain, played mainly in the summer. Professional cricket is controlled by the MCC (the Marylebone Cricket Club). The main competition is the COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP, in which the 18 county cricket clubs play against one another during the season. Each match takes 3–4 days to complete.

The other form of cricket is called LIMITED OVERS (or ONE-DAY) cricket, in which matches are completed in a day. There is a limited-overs championship, played on Sundays. There are also two KNOCKOUT competitions, the finals of which are played at the Lord's Cricket ground in London.

International cricket matches are called TEST MATCH*es* (or TEST*s*) and can take 5 days to complete. They are played between the following teams: Australia, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and the West Indies. When England and Australia play test matches against one another, they are said to be playing for the ASHES.

Many people consider cricket to be England's national game and to be typical of a style of behaviour thought to be very English which includes above all a sense of honour and fairness. It is traditionally played by men and boys and although there are some women's teams, including a national one, the most important cricket club in England (the MCC) voted in 1991 not to accept women members. – see REFEREE (USAGE).



crib[1] /krɪb/ *n* **1** [C] *esp. AmE* a bed for a baby or young child; COT –see picture at BED **2** [C] an open box or wooden frame holding food for animals; MANGER: *a corn crib* **3** [C] *BrE* ‖ **crèche** *AmE*– a model of the scene of Jesus' birth, often placed in churches and homes at Christmas. It consists of all or most of the following: in the centre, a CRIB[1] (2) containing the baby Jesus surrounded by Mary and Joseph, SHEPHERD*s* with their sheep, three kings with presents, and an OX and an ASS. Above the scene is the star which signalled the birth of Jesus. –see picture on page 1212 **4** [C] *infml* **a** something copied dishonestly from someone else's work, esp. at school **b** also **trot** *AmE*– a book supplying a translation or giving answers to questions, often used dishonestly by students **5** [U] *infml* the game of cribbage **6** [C] the four cards set aside for the dealer to use in cribbage

crib[2] *v* **-bb-** [I;T **(from, off)**] *infml* to copy (something) dishonestly from someone else: *I didn't know the answers so I cribbed them off Jean.*

crib·bage /ˈkrɪbɪdʒ/ also **crib** *infml*– *n* [U] a card game in which points are shown by putting small pieces of wood in holes in a small board (**cribbage board**)

Crib·bins /ˈkrɪbᵊnz/, **Ber·nard** /ˈbɜːnəd‖ˈbɜːrnərd/ (1928–) an English theatre, film, and television actor, known esp. for acting COMIC parts

crib death /ˈ· ·/ *n AmE for:* COT DEATH

crick[1] /krɪk/ *n* [**(in)**] a sudden painful stiffening of the muscles, esp. in the back or the neck, making movement difficult: *a crick in my neck*

crick[2] *v* [T] to produce a crick in: *She cricked her neck playing tennis.*

crick·et[1] /ˈkrɪkᵻt/ *n* [U] **1** an outdoor game, popular in Britain, played in summer with a small ball covered with red leather, a BAT, and WICKET*s*, by two teams of 11 players each, usu. dressed all in white. One team tries to get RUN*s*[2] (10) while the other team FIELD*s* –see colour picture on page 884. **2 not cricket** *BrE old-fash or humor* (of an action) unfair or not honourable: *It would have been easy to cheat, but it wouldn't have been cricket.*

cricket[2] *n* a small brown insect, the male of which makes loud short noises by rubbing its leathery wings together

crick·et·er /ˈkrɪkᵻtəʳ/ *n* a person who plays cricket

cried /kraɪd/ *past tense & participle of* CRY

cri·er /ˈkraɪəʳ/ *n* a TOWN CRIER

cries /kraɪz/ *3rd person sing. present tense of* CRY

cri·key /ˈkraɪki/ *interj BrE sl* (an expression of surprise)

crime /kraɪm/ *n* **1** [C] an offence which is punishable by law: *the crime of arson | Drug-smuggling is a serious crime. | bank robbers and other people who* **commit** *violent* **crimes** | *They say that murderers always return to the* **scene of the crime.** **2** [U] illegal activity in general: *It is the job of the police to prevent crime. | The latest crime statistics show a worrying rise in violent crime. | a crime wave* (=situation in which there is a lot of crime) **3** [C] a bad, immoral, or dishonourable act: *She committed the unforgivable crime of voting against her own party in the defence debate.* **4** [S] *infml* a shame; pity: *It's a crime that this food should be wasted.* **5 crime doesn't pay** *saying* people who COMMIT crimes will not become rich, but will be caught and punished –compare SIN; see also ORGANIZED CRIME, WAR CRIME

crime a·gainst hu·man·i·ty /ˌ· ·· ·ˈ···/ *n* an extremely serious crime such as causing the deaths of large numbers of people, esp. directed against a population of whom most or all have done nothing to their AGGRESSOR

Cri·me·a /kraɪˈmiːə/ [*the*] a PENINSULA of the Ukraine in the Black Sea. The Crimean War was fought here.

Crime and Pun·ish·ment /ˌ· · ˈ···/ the best-known book of the Russian writer Dostoyevsky, which was also made into a film

Crimean War /·ˌ·· ˈ·/ [*the*] (1853–56) a war in which Russia fought against Turkey, Britain, France, and Sardinia, begun because of an argument over the holy places in Palestine and ending with the fall of the Russian base of Sevastopol. It is remembered as an extremely bloody war, for the new nursing ideas of Florence Nightingale, and for a British military operation which failed badly, known as the Charge of the Light Brigade.

crime of pas·sion /ˌ· · ˈ··/ *n* a crime, usu. murder, resulting from sexual jealousy and popularly believed to often be punished more lightly by a judge

Crime·watch /ˈkraɪmwɒtʃ‖-wɑːtʃ, -wɔːtʃ/ a British television programme which gives details of crimes which have not been explained and asks the viewing public to telephone or go to the police if they can help with information

crim·i·nal[1] /ˈkrɪmᵻnəl/ *adj* **1** being a crime: *a criminal offence* (=a serious offence, esp. one that you could be sent to prison for) | *criminal behaviour|tendencies* **2** [A *no comp.*] of crime or its punishment: *Does he have a criminal record? | Her attorney advised her to institute criminal proceedings against her employers.* –compare CIVIL (2) **3** *infml* very wrong: *a criminal waste of money* – ~**ly** *adv*

criminal[2] *n* a person who is guilty of crime: *Prison is a place for punishing criminals. | Putting these young men into prison alongside* **hardened criminals** (men who have been guilty of many crimes) *is the surest way to make them reoffend.*

criminal dam·age /ˌ··· ˈ··/ *n* the offence of deliberately damaging or destroying the property of another person

crim·i·nal·ize /ˈkrɪmɨnəlˌaɪz/ *v* [T] to cause to become a criminal **-ization** /ˌkrɪmɨnəl-aɪˈzeɪʃən‖-nələ-/ *n* [U]

criminal law /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* [U] the law concerning crimes and their punishments: *She's an expert in criminal law.* – compare CANON LAW, CIVIL LAW, COMMON LAW and see also extra information on page 742

crim·i·nol·o·gy /ˌkrɪmɨˈnɒlədʒi‖-ˈnɑː-/ *n* [U] the scientific study of crime and criminals **–-gist** *n*

crimp[1] /krɪmp/ *v* [T] to press (esp. hair) into small regular folds

crimp[2] *n infml, esp. AmE* something that spoils or limits: *The thought of that meeting has really put a crimp in my day!*

crim·plene /ˈkrɪmpliːn/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a type of artificially-made material used for clothes, which tends not to develop CREASES when it is folded or crushed. Crimplene was very popular and fashionable in the 1960s, but most fashion-conscious people would not wear it now.

crim·son[1] /ˈkrɪmzən/ *adj* having a deep purplish red colour: *a crimson sky | She turned crimson with embarrassment.* **–crimson** *n*

crimson[2] *v* [I;T] to (cause to) become crimson: *His face crimsoned when he saw her watching him.*

cringe /krɪndʒ/ *v* [I] **1** to bend and move back, esp. from fear; COWER: *The dog cringed when it saw my stick.* **2** [(**before, to**)] to behave without self-respect towards someone in a more important or powerful position: *He always cringes before/to the boss.* **3** [(**at**)] *infml* to have a very uncomfortable feeling of shame or dislike: *I cringed with embarrassment when my father was rude to my teacher.*

crin·kle[1] /ˈkrɪŋkəl/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) become covered with fine lines or folds, e.g. by pressing or crushing: *My clothes were all crinkled when I got them out of the case. | to crinkle one's nose in disgust*

crinkle[2] *n* a fold or line made e.g. by crushing cloth or paper –compare WRINKLE[1] (1)

crin·kly /ˈkrɪŋkli/ *adj* **1** having many crinkles **2** (of hair) curly **–-kliness** *n* [U]

crin·o·line /ˈkrɪnəlɨn/ *n* a woman's stiff undergarment worn in former times to support a full skirt

cripes /kraɪps/ *interj sl, esp. BrE* (an expression of surprise)

Crip·pen /ˈkrɪpɨn/, **Doctor** (1862–1910) an American doctor who is well-known because he murdered his wife in a particularly BRUTAL way while living in England. He was given the DEATH SENTENCE.

crip·ple[1] /ˈkrɪpəl/ *n* someone who is unable to use one or more of their limbs properly, esp. the legs (usu. considered offensive to disabled people) –see also DISABLED

cripple[2] *v* [T] **1** to hurt or wound (a person) so that use of one or more of the limbs is made difficult or impossible: *The accident crippled him for life. | a crippling blow* **2** *infml* to damage or weaken seriously: *The country was crippled by the war. | the company's crippling debts*

Cris·co /ˈkrɪskəʊ/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a kind of oily substance used in solid or liquid form in cooking in the US: *Fry the meat in a little Crisco.*

cri·sis /ˈkraɪsɨs/ *n* **-ses** /siːz/ **1** a point or moment of great danger, difficulty, or uncertainty: *The sudden rise in oil prices led to an economic crisis. | The present housing crisis* (=severe shortage of housing) *is the result of years of neglect. | Relations between the two countries have reached crisis point.* **2** the time in a serious illness at which there is a sudden change for better or worse

Crisis at Christ·mas /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ *n* now officially called **Crisis** (in Britain) an organization which gives food, clothing, and a place to sleep to poor and homeless people in large cities, esp. in the weeks before Christmas, usu. using an empty building to do this work in

crisis line /ˈ·· ·/ also **hotline**– *n AmE* a telephone service which offers free help to people who think themselves to be in a particular crisis: *a crisis line for the parents of missing children* –compare HELPLINE

crisis man·age·ment /ˈ·· ˌ···/ *n* [U] the art or process of keeping a situation of great danger or uncertainty under control: *Once news of the redundancies leaks out, your job will become largely an exercise in crisis management.*

crisis of con·fi·dence /ˌ·· · ˈ···/ *n* **-ses of confidence** a point when confidence in a plan, person, company etc. becomes very weak: *The crisis of confidence in the party led to its leader's downfall.*

crisp[1] /krɪsp/ also **potato crisp** *BrE*‖**potato chip** *AmE & AustrE*– *n* a thin piece of potato cooked in very hot fat, dried, and sold in packets; crisps are generally considered to be not a very healthy food: *I'll have a pint of beer and a packet of crisps, please.* –see picture at CHIP

crisp[2] *adj* **1** hard; dry; easily broken: *crisp pastry | crisp bacon* **2** firm and fresh, as if recently made or grown: *a crisp apple | crisp vegetables | a crisp new five-pound note/five-dollar bill* **3** (of the air, weather, etc.) cold, dry, and fresh: *a crisp winter day* **4** (of style, manners, etc.) quick and confident; showing no doubts or slowness; BRISK: *a crisp reply/performance* **5** (of hair) tightly curled **– ~ly** *adv* **– ~ness** *n* [U]

crisp[3] *v* [I;T (UP)] to (cause to) become crisp, esp. by cooking or heating

Crisp, Quen·tin /ˈkwentɨn/ (1908–) a British-born writer, performer, and CRITIC, who lives in the US. He is known for his books which include *The Naked Civil Servant* and *How to Have a Lifestyle*, and for his unusual opinions and way of life

crisp·bread /ˈkrɪspbred/ *n* a dry unsweetened BISCUIT made from grain, often eaten by people wanting to lose weight, in place of bread, or by those who consider it to be a healthy food

crisp·y /ˈkrɪspi/ *adj infml* CRISP[2] (1, 2) **–-iness** *n* [U]

criss·cross /ˈkrɪskrɒs‖-krɔːs/ *n* a pattern made by crossing a lot of straight lines; network of lines: *a crisscross design* **–crisscross** *v* [I;T] : *railway lines crisscrossing the map*

cri·te·ri·on /kraɪˈtɪəriən/ *n* **-ria** /riə/ *or* **-rions** an established standard or principle, on which a judgment or decision is based: *What criteria do you use to judge a good wine? | Our proposal failed to meet the criteria established by the government, so they gave us no money.*

crit·ic /ˈkrɪtɪk/ *n* **1** a person who gives judgments about the good and bad qualities of something, esp. art, music, films, etc., esp. someone who does this as a job: *She's the music critic for "The Times".* **2** a person who dislikes and expresses strong disapproval of something or someone: *an outspoken critic of the government's defence policy | It's easy to be an* **armchair critic.** (=do nothing oneself but express disapproval of others)

crit·i·cal /ˈkrɪtɪkəl/ *adj* **1** of or being a moment of great danger, difficulty, or uncertainty, when a sudden change to a better or worse condition is likely; of or being a CRISIS: *a critical stage in his illness/in the negotiations | a matter of critical importance | We arrived at the critical moment. | The next two weeks will be critical (for the company).* **2** providing a careful judgment of the good and bad qualities of something: *a critical analysis/assessment of the government's record | critical writings | Her new book received* **critical acclaim.** (=was praised by the critics) | *It was a critical success* (=critics liked it) *but the public gave the thumbs down.* **3** [(**of**)] finding fault; judging severely: *Why are you so critical of everything I wear?* **– ~ly** /kli/ *adv*

critical mass /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* [C;U] (in science) the amount of a substance necessary for an atomic CHAIN REACTION to take place: (fig.) *The party never reached the critical mass; everyone sat around the whole evening looking uncomfortable.*

critical path a·nal·y·sis /ˌ··· ˌ· ·ˈ···/ *n* a method of planning a large piece of work so that there will be few delays and the cost will be as low as possible

crit·i·cism /ˈkrɪtɨsɪzəm/ *n* [C;U] **1** (an) unfavourable judgment or expression of disapproval: *Criticism doesn't worry me. | This decision has come in for* (=received) *a great deal of criticism.* **2** (an example of) the forming and expressing of judgments about the good or bad qualities of anything, esp. artistic work; work of a critic: *literary criticism*

crit·i·cize ‖ also **-cise** *BrE* /ˈkrɪtɨsaɪz/ *v* [I;T] **1** [(**for**)] to judge with disapproval; point out the faults of: *The report strongly criticizes the police for failing to deal with this problem.* **2** to make judgments about the good and bad points of: *It's hard to criticize one's own work.*

cri·tique /krɪ'ti:k/ *n* an article, book, etc., criticizing something, such as the work of a writer

crit·ter /'krɪtəʳ/ *n AmE infml* a creature

croak[1] /krəʊk/ *v* **1** [I] to make a deep low noise such as a FROG makes **2** [I;T] to speak with a rough voice as if one has a sore throat **3** [I] *sl* to die

croak[2] *n* a croaking noise

Cro·at /'krəʊæt/ *n* **1** [C] someone who is from or whose parents are from Croatia: *I think he's a Croat.* **2** [U] one of the languages of Croatia: *Do you speak Croat?*

Cro·a·tia /krəʊ'eɪʃə/ a country in SE Europe bordered by Slovenia and Hungary in N, by the Adriatic Sea in W, and Serbia and Bosnia in E; capital Zagreb; population 4,680,000 (1988) —**-tian** *adj*

cro·chet[1] /'krəʊʃeɪ‖krəʊ'ʃeɪ/ *n* [U] (examples of) the art of making clothes, tablecloths, etc., with a special hooked needle (**crochet-hook**)

crochet[2] *v* [I;T] to make by means of crochet: *to crochet a shawl* —compare KNIT (1)

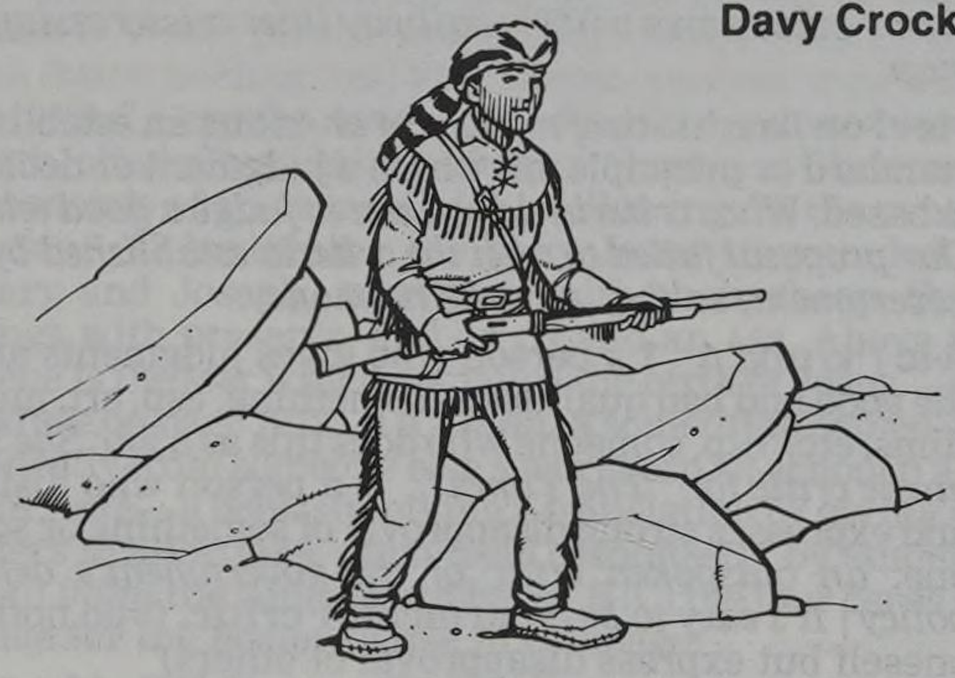
crock[1] /krɒk‖krɑ:k/ *n* a clay pot

crock[2] *n infml* **1** *esp. BrE* an old car **2** a weak old person: *We old crocks can't run like you.*

Crock·er /'krɒkəʳ‖'krɑ:-/, **Bet·ty** /'beti/ *tdmk* a name made up by a food company in the US for use on its products and cookbooks: *a Betty Crocker cake mix | Betty Crocker's International Cookbook*

crock·e·ry /'krɒkəri‖'krɑ:-/ *esp. BrE* ‖ **earthenware** *esp. AmE— n* [U] cups, plates, etc., made from baked clay

Davy Crockett



Crock·ett /'krɒkɨt‖'krɑ:-/, **Da·vy** /'deɪvi/ (1786–1836) an American FRONTIERSMAN and politician who died defending the Alamo. In the popular imagination Davy Crockett wears a leather shirt and trousers and a hat made from animal skins, and carries a long gun for hunting in the forests. He is also known for his humour. A well-known popular song describes him as "king of the wild frontier".

crock of gold /ˌ·· '·/ *n* a pot of gold which is supposed to be found at the end of a RAINBOW (=an arch with seven colours in the sky)

croc·o·dile /'krɒkədaɪl‖'krɑ:-/ *n* **-diles** *or* **-dile** **1** [C] a large REPTILE that lives on land and in lakes and rivers in the hot wet parts of the world. It has a long hard-skinned body and a long mouth with many teeth. —compare ALLIGATOR **2** [U] the skin of this animal used as leather: *crocodile shoes* **3** [C] *BrE* a line of people, esp. schoolchildren, walking in pairs **4 in a while, crocodile** see ALLIGATOR

crocodile



Crocodile Dun·dee /ˌ··· ·'·/ a funny American film about an Australian CROCODILE hunter of the same name who goes to New York

crocodile tears /'krɒkədaɪl ˌtɪəz‖'krɑ:kədaɪl ˌtɪərz/ *n* [P] insincere tears or other insincere signs of sorrow or sympathy

cro·cus /'krəʊkəs/ *n* a small low-growing plant with a single purple, yellow, or white flower which opens in early spring —see picture at FLOWER

Croe·sus /'kri:səs/ (ruled 560–546 BC) a king of W Asia Minor who became extremely wealthy

croft /krɒft‖krɔ:ft/ *n BrE* a very small farm, esp. in Scotland

Croft *n tdmk* a company which makes several different types of SHERRY

croft·er /'krɒftəʳ‖'krɔ:f-/ *n BrE* a person who lives and works on a croft

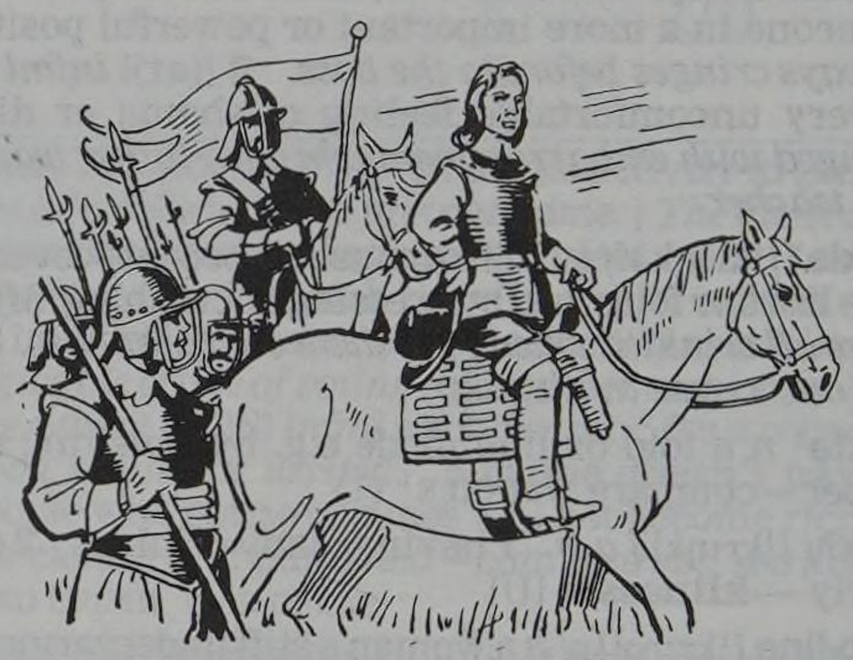
crois·sant /'krwɑ:sɒŋ‖krwɑ:'sɑ:nt/ ‖ also **crescent roll** *AmE— n* a piece of breadlike baked pastry, shaped like a CRESCENT, and usu. eaten with coffee at breakfast. This is generally thought of as the type of breakfast one eats in France, although it is also popular with those who are familiar with it through travelling.

Cro-Ma·gnon /krəʊ 'mænjɒn ‖ -'mægnən/ *n* an early type of human being who lived in Europe from around 60,000 BC to 10,000 BC

crom·lech /'krɒmlek‖'krɑ:m-/ *n tech* **1** a circle of upright stones built in ancient times in Britain and France **2** a DOLMEN

Cromp·ton /'krɒmptən‖'krɑ:-/, **Rich·mal** /'rɪtʃməl/ (1890–1969) an English writer. She wrote the famous SERIES of children's books of which the first is *Just William.*

Oliver Cromwell with roundhead soldiers



Crom·well /'krɒmwel‖'krɑ:-/, **Ol·i·ver** /'ɒlɨvəʳ ‖ 'ɑ:-/ (1599–1658) an English general, politician, and PURITAN. He was leader of the Parliamentarian army against King Charles I in the Civil War and became Lord Protector of England after the king's EXECUTION —see also CIVIL WAR (3)

Cromwell, Thomas (about 1485–1540) an English lawyer and politician who helped to make the English church independent of Rome, helping King Henry VIII stop the operations of certain religious institutions in England. He was executed (EXECUTE) by Henry VIII. —see also DISSOLUTION OF THE MONASTERIES

Cromwell Road /ˌ·· '·/ a very long road in London which goes from the Victoria and Albert Museum to Earl's Court Road, along which there are many famous and interesting buildings

crone /krəʊn/ *n derog* an old woman, esp. one who is ugly or nasty

Cron·kite /'krɒŋkaɪt‖'krɑ:-/, **Wal·ter** /'wɒltəʳ ‖ 'wɔ:l-/ (1916–) an American television news reporter and ANCHOR (3) until 1980. Cronkite's opinions were respected and trusted by many Americans.

Cro·nus /'krəʊnəs/ , **Cro·nos** /'krəʊnɒs‖-nɑ:s/ also **Kronos**— in Greek MYTHOLOGY, a son of Uranus who became ruler of the world (Roman name Saturn)

cro·ny /'krəʊni/ *n infml, sometimes derog* a friend or companion, esp. of a person in a position of power: *The mayor's always doing favours for his cronies.*

crook[1] /krʊk/ *n* **1** *infml* a very dishonest person, esp. a criminal: *That second-hand car dealer is nothing but a crook – his cars are either stolen or unsafe to drive.* **2** a bend or curve: *She carried the parcel in the crook of her arm.* **3** a long stick or tool with a curved end: *a shepherd's crook* —see also **by hook or by crook** (HOOK[1]); see picture at STICK

crook[2] *v* [T] to bend: *He crooked his finger, signalling me to follow him.*

crook[3] *adj AustrE infml* **1** sick; ill: *I'm feeling a bit crook today.* **2** (of things) nasty; bad: *The food was crook.*

crook·ed /ˈkrʊkɨd/ *adj* **1** not straight; twisted; bent: *a crooked street* **2** *infml* dishonest: *a crooked politician* — ~**ly** *adv* — ~**ness** *n* [U]

croon /kruːn/ *v* [I;T] **1** to sing (usu. old slow popular songs) with feeling: *He crooned into the microphone.* **2** to sing gently in a low soft voice: *She crooned a lullaby.*

croon·er /ˈkruːnəʳ/ *n old use or humor* an entertainer who croons. A famous example is Bing Crosby, sometimes called "the old crooner" in an AFFECTIONATE way.

crop[1] /krɒp‖krɑːp/ *n* **1** [*often pl.*] a plant or plant product such as grain, fruit, or vegetables grown by a farmer: *Wheat is a widely grown crop in Britain and North America.* | *The heavy rain did a lot of damage to the crops.* —see also CASH CROP, CATCH CROP, SUBSISTENCE CROP **2** the amount of such a product that is grown and gathered in a single season or place: *We've had the biggest wheat crop ever this year.* | *a record crop of apples* | (fig.) *this year's crop of new students* **3** a baglike part of a bird's throat where food is stored **4** a short riding whip **5** [*usu. sing.*] hair cut very short: *I don't think a crop suits her — it makes her look like a prisoner.*

crop[2] *v* **-pp-** **1** [T] (of an animal) to bite off and eat the tops of (plants): *The sheep cropped the grass.* **2** [T] to cut (a person's hair or a horse's tail) short **3** [I+*adv*] (of a plant) to produce a crop: *The potatoes have cropped well this year.*

crop out/up *phr v* [I] (of rocks, etc.) to show above the surface of the ground —see also OUTCROP

crop up *phr v* [I] *infml* to happen or appear unexpectedly: *Something has cropped up at work so I'll be late home tonight.*

crop cir·cle /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a CORN CIRCLE

crop·per[1] /ˈkrɒpəʳ‖ˈkrɑː-/ *n* a person or thing that crops

cropper[2] *n BrE* **come a cropper** *sl* **a** to fall heavily **b** to fail completely

crop spray·ing /ˈ· ˌ··/ also **crop dusting**— *n* [U] the spreading of insect-killing chemical powders and liquids over crops, esp. from a low-flying plane

cro·quet /ˈkrəʊkeɪ, -ki‖krəʊˈkeɪ/ *n* [U] a game played on grass in which players knock wooden balls through HOOPS (=small metal arches) with a MALLET (=long-handled wooden hammer). Croquet was popular formerly in Britain, but is quite unusual nowadays except in some parks or gardens. Many people believe that it is played only by UPPER-CLASS people. In the US croquet is often played by children in their own garden.

cro·quette /krəʊˈket/ *n* a small rounded mass of crushed meat, fish, potato, etc., covered with egg and BREADCRUMBS and cooked in deep fat

crore /krɔːʳ/ *n* **crore** *or* **crores** *IndE & PakE* ten million; 100 LAKHS: *crores of/six crore of rupees*

Cros·by /ˈkrɒzbi‖ˈkrɔː-/, **Bing** /bɪŋ/ (1904–77) an American singer and film actor, esp. famous for his style of singing and the COMEDY films he made with Bob Hope. His most famous song is called *White Christmas*.

cro·sier , crozier /ˈkrəʊʒəʳ, -ziəʳ/ *n* a long stick with a decorative curved end, carried by a BISHOP

cross[1] /krɒs‖krɔːs/ *n* **1** a mark (x or +) often used **a** as a sign of where something is or should be **b** as a sign that something is incorrect **c** as the signature of a person who cannot write **2** an upright post with a bar crossing it near the top, on which people were tied or nailed and left to die as a punishment in ancient times: *Christ's death on the cross* **3** (*often cap.*) this shape as the sign of the Christian faith (because Christians believe that Jesus Christ was killed on a cross): *Jesus hanging on the Cross* | *medieval wars between Cross and Crescent* (=the Christian and Muslim religions) —see also CROSS[2] (6) **4** any object, structure, or picture in this shape, used for decoration or worn as a sign of the Christian faith: *She wore a small gold cross on a chain.* | *a wooden cross on his grave* —see also CRUCIFIX, MALTESE CROSS **5** a decoration of this shape worn as an honour (a MEDAL), esp. for military bravery: *He won the George Cross during the war.* **6** [(**between**)] a mixture of two different things or qualities: *The taste is a cross between coffee and chocolate.* — see also CROSS[2] (4) **7** a cause of sorrow or suffering which tests one's patience or goodness: *Everyone* **has a cross to bear** *in life.* —see also RED CROSS, **the sign of the cross** (SIGN[1] (9))

cross[2] *v* **1** [I;T] to go, pass, or reach across (something): *The soldiers took three days to cross the desert.* | *a railway line that crosses the country from coast to coast* | *Make sure there's no traffic before you cross (the road).* **2** [I;T] to place, lie, or pass across each other: *I'll meet you where the path crosses the main road.* | *Jean crossed her arms.* —see also CROSSED **3** [I;T] to pass in opposite directions: *I got your letter the day after I sent mine: they must have crossed in the post.* **4** [T (**with**)] to cause (an animal or plant) to breed with one of another kind: *This flower has been produced by crossing several different varieties.* —see also CROSS[1] (6), CROSSBREED **5** [T] (in Britain) to draw two lines across (a cheque) to show that it must be paid into a bank account —compare OPEN[1] (10) **6** [T] to make a hand movement down and across (oneself) as a religious act: *She crossed herself as she left the church.* **7** [I;T] (in football, HOCKEY, etc.) to kick or pass (the ball) across the field **8** [T] to oppose the plans or wishes of: *Anne hates being crossed, so don't argue with her.* —see also DOUBLE-CROSS **8 cross my heart (and hope to die)** *infml* (used when making a promise): *I didn't do it, cross my heart!* **cross one's mind** to come into one's thoughts: *It didn't even cross my mind that he would be upset.* **11 cross someone's palm (with silver)** to give money to someone, esp. so that they will tell you what is going to happen to you in the future **12 cross swords with** to argue or openly disagree with: *This isn't the first time he has crossed swords with the party leader.* **13 cross the Rubicon** to make a decision or take an action that cannot later be changed (from the action taken by Julius Caesar in crossing the river Rubicon into Italy in 49 BC, against the orders of the Roman Senate) **14 not to cross your bridges before you come/get to them** not to waste time thinking about difficulties which may never happen —see also **dot one's i's and cross one's t's** (DOT[2]), **keep one's fingers crossed** (FINGER[1] (8))

cross sbdy./sthg. **off** (sthg.) *phr v* [T] to remove (from) by drawing a line through: *If you can't come, cross your name off (the list).*

cross sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] to draw a line through (writing): *Cross that out and write it again.*

cross over *phr v* [I (to)] **1** *BrE euph* to die **2** *AmE* (of an entertainer) to find success in a field other than the one that one has established one's fame in: *She crossed over (to the pop charts) with her latest hit single.* —see also CROSSOVER

cross[3] *adj* [(**with**)] angry; bad-tempered: *Dad was really cross with me when I broke the window.* — ~**ly** *adv* — ~**ness** *n* [U]

cross- see WORD FORMATION

Crosse and Black·well /ˌkrɒs ənd ˈblækwəl ‖ ˌkrɔːs-/ *n tdmk* a company which makes many different types of food product, sold esp. in tins and bottles

cross·bar /ˈkrɒsbɑːʳ‖ˈkrɔːs-/ *n* **1** a bar joining two upright posts, esp. two GOALPOSTS: *They've* **hit the crossbar** (=nearly got a GOAL) *several times.* **2** the bar between the seat and the HANDLEBARS on a bicycle —see picture at BICYCLE

cross·bench·es /ˈkrɒsˌbentʃɨzˌ‖ˈkrɔːs-/ *n* [P] seats in both houses of the British parliament for members who do not belong to the official government or opposition parties —**-er** *n*

crossbones *n* see SKULL AND CROSSBONES

cross·bow /ˈkrɒsbəʊ‖ˈkrɔːs-/ *n* a powerful weapon combining a BOW[3] and a gun, used esp. in former times: *to fire a crossbow bolt*

cross·breed[1] /ˈkrɒsbriːd‖ˈkrɔːs-/ *v* [I;T] **a** to cause (an animal or plant) to breed with one of another breed **b** (of an animal or plant) to breed with one of another breed —compare INTERBREED —**-bred** /bred/ *adj* : *crossbred sheep*

crossbreed[2] *n* an animal or plant which is a mixture of breeds —compare INTERBREED

cross-Chan·nel /ˌ· ˈ··◂/ *adj* passing across the English CHANNEL: *Heavy storms caused difficulties for cross-channel traffic.* | *a cross-Channel ferry*

cross·check /ˌkrɒsˈtʃek‖ˌkrɔːs-/ *v* [T] to make certain of the correctness of (a calculation, statement, etc.), e.g. by using a different method of calculation —**cross-check** *n*

cross-coun·try[1] /ˌ· ˈ··◂/ *adj, adv* across the fields or open country: *cross-country skiing/running*

cross-country[2] *n* [C;U] a race run not on a track but across open country and fields

cross-cul·tu·ral /ˌ· ˈ···◂/ *adj* belonging to or involving different CULTURES or comparison between them: *cross-cultural event|studies*

cross·cur·rent /ˈkrɒsˌkʌrənt‖ˈkrɔːskɜːr-/ *n* a current in the sea, a river, etc., moving across the general direction of the main current

cross-dress·ing /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [U] the practice of wearing the clothes of the opposite sex, esp. for sexual pleasure —**-er** *n*

crossed /krɒst‖krɔːst/ *adj* (of a telephone line) connected by mistake to two or more telephones

crossed cheque /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n BrE* (in Britain) a cheque which has two lines across it, showing that it must be paid into a bank account

cross-ex·am·ine /ˌ· ·ˈ··/ also **cross-question**— *v* [T] to question (esp. a witness) very closely, usu. in order to compare the answers with other answers given before —**-ination** /ˌ· ···ˈ··/ *n* [C;U] —**-iner** /ˌ· ·ˈ···/ *n*

cross-eyed /ˌ· ˈ·◂‖ˈ· ·/ *adj* having the eyes looking in towards the nose

cross-fer·ti·lize also **-lise** *BrE* /ˌ· ˈ···/ *v* [T] **1** to FERTILIZE by adding male sex cells from one plant to female sex cells from another **2** [*often pass.*] to influence with ideas from different areas: *Europe has been cross-fertilized by contact with many other societies.* —**-lization** /ˌ· ···ˈ··/ *n* [U]

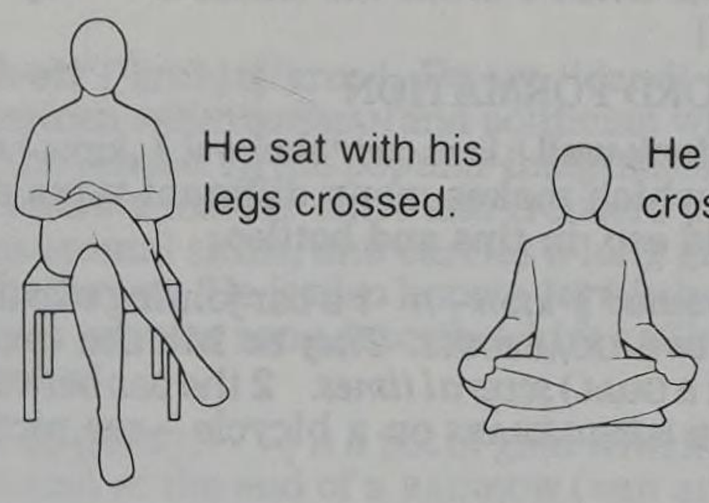
cross·fire /ˈkrɒsfaɪəʳ‖ˈkrɔːs-/ *n* [U] one or more lines of gunfire firing across a particular point: *When the terrorists fought the police, several onlookers were caught in the crossfire.*

cross-grained /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *adj* **1** (of wood) having the GRAIN (4) running across rather than along it **2** *infml* difficult to please; ARGUMENTATIVE

cross-hatch·ing /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* [U] lines drawn across part of a picture to show that something is made of different material or to produce the effect of shade

cross·ing /ˈkrɒsɪŋ‖ˈkrɔː-/ *n* **1** a place at which a road, river, border, etc., can be crossed —see also LEVEL CROSSING, PEDESTRIAN CROSSING and see picture at ZEBRA **2** a place where two lines, tracks, etc., cross **3** a journey across the sea: *Did you have a rough crossing?*

cross-legged



cross-legged /ˌkrɒs ˈlegd◂‖ˌkrɔːs ˈlegɨd◂/ *adj, adv* having the knees wide apart and ankles crossed: *He was sitting cross-legged on the floor.*

cross·o·ver /ˈkrɒsəʊvəʳ‖ˈkrɔːs-/ *n AmE* an act or occasion of an entertainer who is popular in one field finding successes in another: *a crossover from television to movies | a crossover hit|artist* —see also CROSS **over** (2)

crossover pri·ma·ry /ˈ··· ˌ···/ *n AmE* an OPEN PRIMARY

cross·patch /ˈkrɒspætʃ‖ˈkrɔːs-/ *n humor sl* a bad-tempered person

cross·piece /ˈkrɒspiːs‖ˈkrɔːs-/ *n* a piece of anything lying across something else

cross·ply /ˈkrɒsplaɪ‖ˈkrɔːs-/ *adj* (of a motor tyre) made stronger by cords pulled tightly across each other inside the rubber —compare RADIAL[2] —**crossply** *n*

cross-pur·pos·es /ˌ· ˈ···/ *n* **at cross-purposes** (of two people) misunderstanding each other; actually talking about different things, but believing they are talking about the same thing: *It was several minutes before we realized we were talking at cross-purposes.*

cross-ques·tion /ˌ· ˈ··/ *v* [T] to CROSS-EXAMINE —~**er** *n*

cross-re·fer /ˌ· ·ˈ·/ *v* [I;T (**from, to**)] to direct (the reader) from one place in a book to another place in the same book: *In this dictionary capital letters are used to cross-refer (you) from one word to another.*

cross-ref·erence /ˌ· ˈ··‖ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a note directing the reader from one place in a book to another place in the same book: *In this dictionary cross-references are shown in capital letters.*

cross·roads /ˈkrɒsrəʊdz‖ˈkrɔːs-/ *n* **crossroads** **1** a place where two or more roads cross **2** a point at which an important decision must be taken: *It was a crossroads in my life. | a crossroads decision*

cross-sec·tion /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* **1** (a drawing of) a surface made by cutting across something at right angles to its length: *a cross-section of a worm|of a plant stem* —see picture at TEETH **2** a part or group that is typical or representative of the whole: *The researchers interviewed a cross-section of the American public.*

cross-stitch /ˈ· ·/ *n* [C;U] (decorative sewing which uses) a stitch like an X made by crossing one stitch over another

cross street /ˈ· ·/ *n AmE* a street that crosses another street. This word is used esp. when giving directions: *I live on Vanowen Blvd and the nearest cross streets are Lindley and Etiwanda.*

cross talk /ˈ· ·/ *n* [U] **1** *BrE* rapid exchange of clever remarks, esp. between two actors **2** interruption of a radio or telephone conversation by unwanted signals from elsewhere

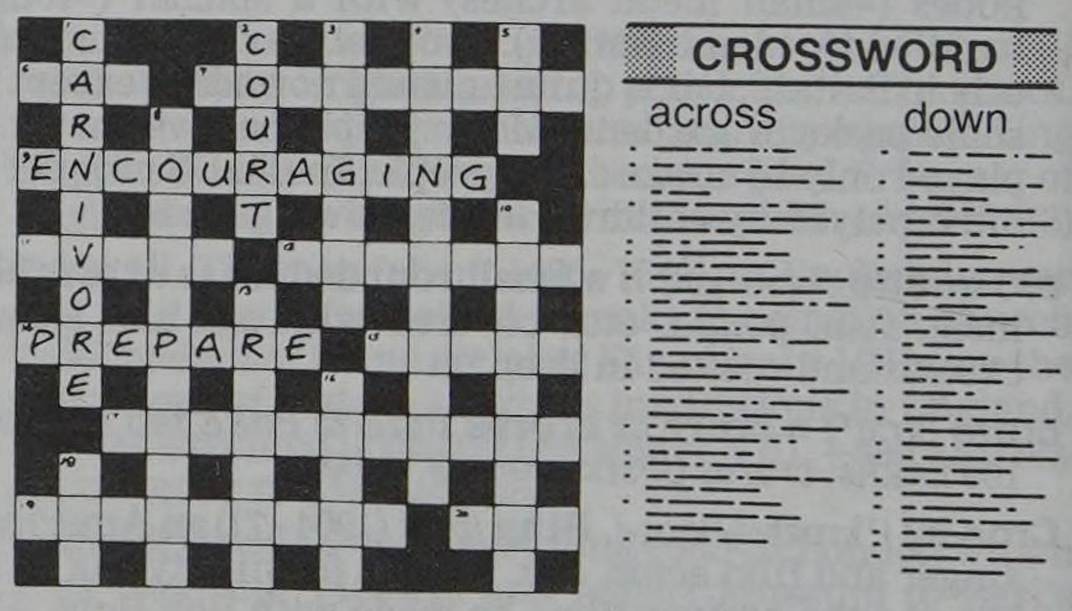
cross·tree /ˈkrɒs-triː‖ˈkrɔːs-/ *n tech* either of two beams fastened across the top of a ship's MAST

cross·walk /ˈkrɒswɔːk‖ˈkrɔːs-/ *n AmE for* PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

cross·wind /ˈkrɒsˌwɪnd‖ˈkrɔːs-/ *n* a wind blowing across the line of flight of a plane, direction of movement of traffic, etc.

cross·wise /ˈkrɒsˌwaɪz‖ˈkrɔːs-/ *adj, adv* crossing something or each other: *logs laid crosswise on the floor*

crossword



cross·word /ˈkrɒsˌwɜːd‖ˈkrɔːsˌwɜːrd/ also **crossword puz·zle** /ˈ·· ˌ··/— *n* a printed game in which words are fitted into a pattern of numbered squares in answer to numbered CLUES (=questions or information about the necessary word) in such a way that words can be read across as well as down when the pattern is completed. Crosswords are very popular in Britain and the US and are found in many different newspapers and magazines. People who can finish difficult ones quickly are often thought to be very clever: *She does the Times crossword before breakfast.*

crotch /krɒtʃ‖krɑːtʃ/ *n* **1** also **crutch**— **a** the place between the tops of the legs of the human body **b** the place where the legs of a pair of trousers, etc., join: *These jeans are too tight in the crotch.* —see picture at HUMAN **2** the place where a branch separates from a tree

crotch·et /ˈkrɒtʃɨt‖ˈkrɑː-/ *BrE* ‖ **quarter note** *AmE* —*n* a musical note with a time value a quarter as long as a SEMIBREVE —see picture at NOTATION

crotch·et·y /ˈkrɒtʃɨti‖ˈkrɑː-/ *adj infml* (esp. of someone old) bad-tempered; liking to argue and complain

crouch /kraʊtʃ/ *v* [I (DOWN)] to lower the body closer to the ground by bending the knees: *He crouched down to stroke the dog. | The cat crouched, ready to spring at the bird.* —compare SQUAT[1] (1)

croup[1] /kruːp/ *n* [U] *med* a disease of the throat, esp. in children, that makes breathing difficult and causes coughing

croup[2] *n* the fleshy part above the back legs of certain animals, esp. the horse

crou·pi·er /ˈkruːpiəʳ/ *n* a person employed to collect and pay out money at a place where games are played for money, e.g. a CASINO

crou·ton /ˈkruːtɒn‖-tɑːn/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] a small square of bread cooked in fat and served in soup

crow[1] /krəʊ/ *n* **1** a large shiny black bird with a loud cry **2 as the ˈcrow flies** in a straight line: *We're two kilometres from town as the crow flies, but nearly five by road.* —see also CROW'S FOOT, CROW'S NEST, **eat crow** (EAT (5))

crow[2] *v* [I] **1** to make the loud high cry of a COCK: *It was dawn, and I could hear a cock crowing somewhere.* **2** [**(about, over)**] *infml derog* to express pride openly, esp. when taking pleasure from someone else's misfortune: *They were crowing over their defeated opponents, little knowing that it would be their turn to lose next time.* **3** (esp. of a baby) to make wordless sounds of happiness

crow[3] *n* [S] **1** the loud high cry of a COCK: *He gave a triumphant crow.* —see also COCK-A-DOODLE DOO **2** a wordless sound of happiness as made by babies

Crow[1] *n* (a member of) a Native American tribe who now live in southern Montana —see NATIVE AMERICAN (CULTURAL NOTE)

Crow[2]**, Jim** see JIM CROW

crow·bar /ˈkrəʊbɑːʳ/ *n* an iron bar used to raise heavy objects off the ground, to force open a box, etc.

crowd[1] /kraʊd/ *n* **1** [C+*sing./pl. v*] a large number of people gathered together: *A big crowd soon gathered at the scene of the accident.* | *There were crowds of people at the theatre.* | *a football crowd* **2** [C] *infml* a particular social group: *I don't spend much time with the college crowd.* **3** [C] a large number of things in disorder: *a crowd of books and papers on his desk* **4** [*the*] people in general, esp. when thought of as easily influenced or lacking original ideas: *I do what I like; I don't go with/follow the crowd.* —see also **two's company, three's a crowd** (COMPANY)

crowd[2] *v* **1** [I+*adv/prep*] (esp. of people) to come together in large numbers: *People crowded round the scene of the accident.* | *They all crowded into the cinema.* **2** [T] (esp. of people) to fill: *Shoppers crowded the streets.* | *The beach was crowded with holidaymakers.* **3** [T+*obj*+*adv/prep*] to press tightly into a small space: *He crowded his large family into the taxi.* **4** [T] *infml* to push or put pressure on in a threatening way: *Don't crowd her — give her some space!* | *They're crowding me with their unreasonable demands.*

crowd sbdy./sthg. **out** *phr v* to keep out because of lack of space: *The big firms are trying to crowd our small business out of the market.*

crowd·ed /ˈkraʊdɨd/ *adj* **1** completely full; filled with a crowd: *a very crowded bus/street* **2** uncomfortably close together: *We'll be a bit crowded in that tiny room.* —**~ness** *n* [U]

crowd·ed out /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *adj* [F] *infml, esp. BrE* very full; PACKED-OUT: *The cinema was crowded out.*

crown[1] /kraʊn/ *n* **1** [C] a decorative covering for the head, usu. made of gold and jewels, worn by a king or queen as a sign of royal power **2** [C] **a** an object in this shape **b** a representation of this shape: *a printed crown on an official envelope* **c** a piece of metal in this shape for wearing, e.g. on a uniform, as a mark of office, rank, etc. **d** a sign in this shape used with numbers, usu. from one to five, in a system to judge standards or quality: *The English Tourist Board gives this hotel three crowns.* **3** [*the*] (*usu. cap.*) the governing power of a kingdom: *land belonging to the Crown* **4** [*the*] **a** the position of king or queen: *rival claimants to the crown* **b** a CHAMPIONSHIP title: *He won the heavyweight boxing crown in 1985.* **5** [C] the top or highest part of something, e.g. of the head, a hat, or a mountain: *the crown of a hill* **6** [C] **a** an old British coin worth 25 pence **b** any of several units of money in certain European countries: *Swedish/Czechoslovak crowns* —see also HALF A CROWN **7** [C] (an artificial covering for) the part of a tooth above the GUM —see picture at TEETH

crown[2] *v* [T] **1** to place a crown solemnly on the head of (a person) as a sign of royal power or of victory: *to crown a beauty queen* [+*obj*+*n*] *They crowned him king of Portugal.* —see also CORONATION **2** to cover the top of (something): *Mist crowned the mountain.* **3** to complete in a way that is suitable or deserved: *Success has crowned her years of effort.* **4** to put a protective covering on (a tooth) **5** *sl* to hit (someone) on the head: *Be quiet or I'll crown you!* **6 to crown it all** to make (one's) good or bad fortune complete: *My house burnt down, my car was stolen, and to crown it all I lost my job.* —see also CROWNING

crown col·o·ny /ˌ· ˈ···/ *n* (*often caps.*) a British COLONY ruled by a governor appointed by the British government

Crown Court /ˌ· ˈ·/ [C;U] part of the Supreme Court of England and Wales which hears serious criminal cases and APPEALS[1] (3) from a Magistrates' Court —see also extra information on page 742

Crown Der·by /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [U] a type of fine PORCELAIN made in the city of Derby, England

crowned head /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* a king or queen: *All the crowned heads of Europe were at the funeral.*

crown·ing /ˈkraʊnɪŋ/ *adj* of more importance or value than anything else; above all other things: *Her crowning ambition was to become a famous writer.* | *the president's crowning achievement*

crown jew·els /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [P] (*often caps.*) the crowns, swords, jewels, etc., worn by a king or queen on important state occasions. The British Crown Jewels can be seen in the Tower of London. They are often used as a SYMBOL of something which is so valuable that it cannot be given a price.

crown of thorns /ˌ· · ˈ·/ *n* (*sometimes cap. C and T*) a crown of small, sharp, pointed THORNS which, according to the Bible, was placed on Jesus Christ's head when he was crucified (CRUCIFY)

crown prince /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *n* (*often cap.*) the man who has the legal right to be king after the death of the present ruler: *Crown Prince George*

crown prin·cess /ˌ· ·ˈ·◂‖ˌ· ˈ··◂/ *n* (*often cap.*) **1** the woman who has the legal right to be ruling queen after the death of the present ruler **2** the wife of a crown prince

Crown Pro·se·cu·tion Ser·vice /ˌ· ··ˈ·· ˌ··/ also **CPS**— *n* [*the*] the government organization in England and Wales which is responsible for bringing legal charges against criminals —compare DISTRICT ATTORNEY

crow's foot /ˈ· ·/ *n* **crow's feet** [*usu. pl.*] a WRINKLE at the corner of a person's eye, sometimes thought of as a sign of age or lack of sleep

crow's nest /ˈ· ·/ *n* a small box or shelter near the top of a ship's MAST, from which a person can watch for danger, land, etc.

Crow·ther /ˈkraʊðəʳ/**, Les·lie** /ˈlezli/ (1933—) an English actor and COMEDIAN and one of the first presenters of the children's television programme, *Crackerjack*

Croy·don /ˈkrɔɪdn/ a BOROUGH of S London

cro·zier /ˈkrəʊʒəʳ, -ziəʳ/ *n* a CROSIER

CRT /ˌsiː ɑː ˈtiː‖-ɑːr-/ *n abbrev. for* CATHODE RAY TUBE

cru·cial /ˈkruːʃəl/ *adj* **1** [**(to, for)**] of deciding importance: *a crucial moment in the negotiations* | *The success of this experiment is crucial to the project as a whole.* **2** *sl* excellent —**~ly** *adv*

cru·ci·ble /ˈkruːsɨbəl/ *n* **1** a container in which metals or other substances are heated to very high temperatures **2** *esp. lit* a severe test: *to pass through the crucible of war*

cru·ci·fix /ˈkruːsɨfɪks/ *n* a CROSS[1] (4) with a figure of Christ on it

cru·ci·fix·ion /ˌkruːsɨˈfɪkʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U] (an example of) the act of crucifying **2** [C] (*often cap.*) a picture or other representation of the Crucifixion

Crucifixion [*the*] the death of Jesus Christ by being nailed to a cross and left to die. In pictures of the Crucifixion Jesus is shown with a CROWN OF THORNS on his head. —see also RESURRECTION

cru·ci·form /ˈkruːsɨfɔːm‖-fɔːrm/ *adj fml* cross-shaped

cru·ci·fy /ˈkruːsɨfaɪ/ *v* [T] **1** to kill (someone) by nailing or tying them to a CROSS[1] (3) and leaving them to die. Christians believe that Jesus Christ was crucified. **2** to

be very cruel and unpleasant to, esp. publicly: *If they find out the truth about the boss, the staff will crucify him!* – see also CRUCIFIXION

crud /krʌd/ *n* [U] *infml, esp. AmE* dirt, or an unpleasant substance: *I've got crud under my fingernails from working in the garden.* | *Did you clean out that crud from behind the stove yet?* – ~**dy** *adj* : *Those jeans are really cruddy – why don't you wash them?*

crude[1] /kruːd/ *adj* **1** in a raw or natural state; untreated: *crude oil* | *crude rubber* **2** lacking grace, education, or sensitive feeling; VULGAR: *crude jokes* | *Don't be so crude!* **3** not skilfully made or properly finished: *a crude shelter in the forest* | *The painting was a crude forgery.* | *a crude* (=not very exact) *estimate of the cost* – ~**ly** *adv*

crude[2] also **crude oil** /ˌ· ˈ·/ – *n* [U] untreated oil: *1000 barrels of crude*

cru·di·tés /ˈkruːdɪteɪ/ *n* [P] pieces of raw vegetables served before a meal, often with a DIP[2] (3)

cru·di·ty /ˈkruːdɪti/ *n* **1** [U] also **crude·ness** /ˈkruːdnɪs/– the quality of being crude: *the crudity of their building methods* **2** [C] *fml* a crude act, remark, etc.

cru·el /ˈkruːəl/ *adj* **1** [(**to**)] liking to cause pain and suffering; enjoying the pain of others; very unkind: *a cruel and sadistic murderer* | *Don't be cruel to animals, Sammy.* | *cruel remarks* **2** painful; causing suffering: *a cruel disappointment|wind* | *The death of their daughter was a cruel blow.* **3 be cruel to be kind** to do something now that seems to be cruel to someone in order to help them in a more general way – ~**ly** *adv*

Cru·el·la de Vil /kruˌelə də ˈvɪl/ an evil woman in a children's book and Walt Disney film called *The Hundred and One Dalmatians* who wants to harm the dogs in the story: *Jade's mother has cast me as some kind of Cruella de Vil – charged me with sabotaging Jade's university career.*

cru·el·ty /ˈkruːəlti/ *n* **1** [U] the quality of being cruel: *cruelty to animals* **2** [C] a cruel act, remark, etc.: *the cruelties of war*

cruelty-free /ˌ··· ˈ·◂/ *adj* (of COSMETICS) that have not been tested on animals: *our wide range of cruelty-free products*

cru·et /ˈkruːɪt/ *n* **1** (a holder for) a set of containers for pepper, salt, oil, etc., for use at meals **2** any one of these containers, esp. a small glass bottle for oil or VINEGAR

Cruft's /krʌfts/ (in Britain) a short name for **Cruft's Dog Show**, a competition held every year to judge which is the finest animal in the country for each breed of dog

cruise[1] /kruːz/ *v* **1** [I] to sail in an unhurried way, esp. for pleasure: *to go cruising in the Mediterranean* –see also CRUISE[2] **2** [I] (of a car, plane, etc.) to move at a fast but steady speed on a long journey: *cruising along at 100 kilometres an hour* **3** [I;T] *sl* to look in (public places) for a sexual partner, esp. one of the same sex

cruise[2] *n* a sea voyage for pleasure, esp. one on a large ship and lasting for several days or weeks. This type of holiday is usually expensive and many people think that only rich people go on cruises: *They went on a cruise to Tenerife.*

Cruise, Tom (1962–) an American actor who has played leading film parts since the early 1980s, e.g. in *Top Gun* and *Cocktail*. He is esp. popular with women.

cruise con·trol /ˈ· ·ˌ·/ *n tech* an apparatus fitted to a motor vehicle, esp. a car, which keeps it running at a steady speed which can be chosen by the driver

cruise lin·er /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a large ship specially built for cruises

cruise mis·sile /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* (*sometimes cap.*) a GUIDED MISSILE (=an explosive weapon guided by electrical means) that flies fairly slowly and close to the ground and has a RADAR system for examining the ground

►CULTURAL NOTE There was a great deal of PROTEST in the 1980s over the introduction of US cruise missiles into Britain. Protest camps were set up at Greenham Common, and at Molesworth in Cambridgeshire.◄

cruis·er /ˈkruːzəʳ/ *n* **1** a large fast warship **2** a CABIN CRUISER **3** *AmE* a police car

crul·ler /ˈkrʌləʳ/ *n AmE* a light ring-shaped cake (DOUGHNUT) made from two twisted pieces joined together: *Half a dozen crullers, please.*

crumb /krʌm/ *n* **1** a very small piece of dry food, esp. bread or cake: *Brush the crumbs off the table.* | (fig.) *crumbs of information|of comfort* –see picture at PIECE **2** *AmE sl* a worthless person –see also CRUMBS

crum·ble[1] /ˈkrʌmbəl/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) break into very small pieces: *He crumbled the bread in his fingers.* **2** [I] to weaken; decay; become ruined: *a crumbling church* | *Our hopes crumbled when the business went bankrupt.* | *Opposition to the new law soon crumbled.*

crumble[2] *n esp. BrE* ‖ **crisp** *AmE*– [C;U] (a cooked dish of sweetened fruit covered with) a dry mixture of flour, fat, and sugar: *apple crumble*

crum·bly /ˈkrʌmbli/ *adj* easily crumbled: *crumbly biscuits*

crumbs /krʌmz/ *interj BrE sl* (an expression of surprise or slight annoyance) This is a rather old-fashioned expression which you might find in stories about schoolchildren.

crum·my /ˈkrʌmi/ *adj sl* **1** of poor quality; worthless: *a crummy book* | *What a crummy idea!* **2** rather ill: *He felt pretty crummy.*

crum·pet /ˈkrʌmpɪt/ *n* **1** [C] (esp. in Britain) a small round breadlike cake with holes in one side, eaten hot with butter –compare MUFFIN **2** [U] *BrE sl* women, considered as sexual objects (considered extremely offensive to women): *She's a nice bit of crumpet!*

crum·ple /ˈkrʌmpəl/ *v* **1** [I;T (UP)] to (cause to) become full of irregular folds by pressing, crushing, etc.: *a crumpled dress|suit|newspaper* | *The front of the car crumpled when it hit the wall.* | (fig.) *His face crumpled and he started to cry.* **2** [I (UP)] *infml* to lose the strength or will to fight: *The enemy forces crumpled under the bombardment.*

crumple zone /ˈ·· ·/ *n tech* a part of the body of a motor vehicle which crumples more easily than the rest of the vehicle if hit in an accident, and so protects the people in the vehicle by absorbing (ABSORB) the IMPACT

crunch[1] /krʌntʃ/ *v* **1** [I (**on**);T] to crush (food) noisily with the teeth: *The dog was crunching (on) a bone.* **2** [I] to make a noise like the sound of something being crushed: *Our feet crunched on the frozen snow.* | *The stones crunched under the car tyres.* –see also NUMBER CRUNCHING – ~**y** *adj*

crunch[2] *n* **1** [S] a crunching sound: *I heard a loud crunch as the truck ran into the wall.* **2** [*the*] *infml* a difficult moment when something important must be decided: *They're against our plan now but* **when/if it comes to the crunch** *they'll support us.*

Crunch·ie /ˈkrʌntʃi/ *n tdmk* a type of chocolate bar made by Cadbury's

cru·sade[1] /kruːˈseɪd/ *n* **1** (*usu. cap.*) any of the Christian wars to win back Palestine from the Muslims in the 11th, 12th, and 13th centuries, led by European kings and lords **2** [(**against, for**)] a united effort for the defence or advancement of an idea, principle, etc.: *I think he's running a one-man crusade against cigarette smoking.* | *a crusade for women's rights* –-**sader** *n*

crusade[2] *v* [I (**against, for**)] to take part in a crusade: *to crusade against nuclear weapons* | *a crusading young politician* –-**sader** *n*

cruse /kruːz/ *n bibl or old use* a small pot or JAR for oil, wine, etc.

crush[1] /krʌʃ/ *v* **1** [T] to press with great force so as to break, damage, or destroy the natural shape or condition: *Don't crush the box, there are eggs inside!* | *The tree fell on top of the car and crushed it.* **2** [T] to break into a powder by pressure: *This machine crushes wheat grain to make flour.* **3** [I+*adv|prep*] to move in large numbers through or into a small space: *The people crushed through the gates.* **4** [T] to destroy completely, esp. by the use of great force: *The military government has ruthlessly crushed all opposition.* | *a crushing defeat* | (fig.) *He was crushed|His hopes were crushed by the chairman's remark.*

crush[2] *n* **1** [S] uncomfortable pressure caused by a large crowd of people filling a small space: *There was such a crush on the train that I could hardly breathe.* **2** [U] a drink made by crushing fruit and adding water: *orange crush* –compare SQUASH[2] (3) **3** [C (**on**)] *infml* a strong but short-lived feeling of love for someone, like that often experienced by a TEENAGER; an INFATUATION: *Did you* **have a crush on** *one of the teachers when you were at school?*

crush bar·ri·er /ˈ· ˌ··· / *n* a fence used to keep back crowds at football matches, processions, etc. —compare CRASH BARRIER

Crusoe, Robinson see ROBINSON CRUSOE

crust /krʌst/ *n* [C;U] **1** (a piece of) the hard usu. brown outer surface of baked bread **2** the baked pastry on a PIE **3** a hard outer covering, as of earth or snow: *a thin crust of ice on the aeroplane's wing* —see also UPPER CRUST

crus·ta·cean /krʌˈsteɪʃən/ *n* any of a group of animals with a hard outer shell that are closely related to the insects: *Lobsters, crabs, and shrimps are crustaceans.* — **crustacean** *adj*

crust·y /ˈkrʌsti/ *adj* **1** having a hard well-baked crust: *a crusty loaf* **2** bad-tempered; SURLY: *a crusty old soldier* —**-ily** *adv* —**-iness** *n* [U]

crutch /krʌtʃ/ *n* **1** a stick with a piece that fits under the arm, for supporting a person who has difficulty in walking: *When she broke her leg she had to walk on crutches.* **2** something that provides support or a help: *Her religion was a crutch to her when John died.* **3** CROTCH (1)

crux /krʌks/ *n* [*the*] the central or most important part of a problem: *The crux of the matter is ...*

Cruyff /ˈkrɔɪf/, **Jo·hann** /ˈjəʊhæn ‖ jəʊˈhɑːn/ (1947–) a Dutch footballer who was European Footballer of the Year in 1973 and 1974 and later became manager of Barcelona football club

cry[1] /kraɪ/ *v* **1** [I;T] to produce (tears) from the eyes as a sign of sorrow: *She cried bitterly when she heard the news of her friend's death.* | *a sad love story that made me cry* | *The baby was crying for milk.* (=because he was hungry)| *to cry oneself to sleep* (=cry till one falls asleep) | *to cry tears of disappointment* —compare WEEP (1)

►CULTURAL NOTE In Britain and the US, crying is not thought to be typical of or suitable to a man, though it has always been considered understandable in certain circumstances, e.g. at a FUNERAL or when done by a young boy. It is gradually becoming more acceptable generally, but people still often think of a man who cries as EFFEMINATE and laugh unkindly at him. This is esp. true of young men, who might call him a **wimp** or a **pansy**, or (esp. if he is young) a **sissy** or a **crybaby**.◄

2 [I (OUT)] to make loud sounds expressing fear, pain, surprise, or some other feeling: *He cried out with pain when he burnt his fingers.* **3** [I (**for**);T (OUT)] to call loudly; shout: *She cried out for help.* | *"Help!" he cried, as he fell into the water.* **4** [I] to make the natural sound of certain animals and birds: *Can you hear the seagulls crying?* **5** [T] *old use* to make known publicly by shouting: *to cry the news* **6 cry for the moon** *BrE infml* to demand something impossible **7 cry one's eyes/heart out** to cry very sadly and usu. for a long time: *When his dog died he cried his eyes out.* **8 cry over spilt milk** to waste time being sorry about something which cannot now be changed: *It's no use crying over spilt milk — we've got to decide what to do next.* **9 cry wolf** to call for help unnecessarily, risking the possibility that people will not believe that you need help later when you really do (from Aesop's story of a boy who was guarding sheep. He kept shouting "Wolf!" even though there was no wolf there, because he found his work boring, so that when a WOLF really did come, no one believed him.): *A spokesman for the Theatre Campaign said: "No longer can the government say we are crying wolf. Cuts have gone so deep that we are now reduced to shutting theatres for a time."* **10 for crying out loud** *sl* (used to give strength to a demand, request, etc.): *For crying out loud shut that door!*

cry sthg. ↔ **down** *phr v* [T] *BrE* to express an unfavourable opinion of

cry off *phr v* [I] *BrE* to say one will not fulfil a promise or agreement: *He tried to cry off at the last moment, but we held him to his promise.*

cry out against sthg. *phr v* [T *pass. rare*] to express loudly one's strong disapproval of: *The villagers cried out against the building of a motorway which would cut right through the village.*

cry out for sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] to be in great need of; demand urgently: *The country is crying out for rain.*

cry[2] *n* **1** [C (**of**)] any loud sound expressing fear, pain, or other strong feeling: *a cry of anger|pain|fear|delight* **2** [C (**for**)] a loud call; shout: *There was a loud cry from the direction of the woodshed.* | *a cry of "Stop, thief!"* **3** [S] a period of crying: *You'll feel better after you've had a (good) cry.* **4** [C] the natural sound made by certain animals or birds: *the warning cry of a mother bird to her chicks* **5** [C] a call to action: *a battle cry* (=to show or encourage bravery in a battle) | *The demand for tax cuts is the party's favourite* **rallying cry.** (=used to encourage support) —see also WAR CRY **6 in full cry** *BrE* (of a group of dogs) making loud noises as they hunt an animal: (fig.) *At the meeting, the parents were in full cry, demanding further government spending on schools.* —see also HUE AND CRY, **a far cry** (FAR[2])

cry·ba·by /ˈkraɪˌbeɪbi/ *n derog* a person, esp. a child, who cries too often

cry for help /ˌ· · ˈ·/ *n* [S] (used of a DESPERATE (3) action, esp. an attempt at SUICIDE) an attempt to get some help and attention from other people, rather than to hurt oneself or anyone else: *I think she took the pills knowing her mother would find her in time; it was just a cry for help.*

cry·ing /ˈkraɪ-ɪŋ/ *adj* [A] *infml* (of something bad) that demands urgent attention: *The state of the roads is* **a crying shame.**

cry·o·gen·ics /ˌkraɪəˈdʒenɪks/ *n* the science of very low temperature

cry·on·ics /kraɪˈɒnɪks‖-ˈɑː-/ *n* the process of freezing a body in liquid NITROGEN at the moment of its death. People who pay for their bodies to be frozen like this hope that at some future time doctors will be able to bring them back to life.

crypt /krɪpt/ *n* a room under a church, often used in the past as a BURIAL place

cryp·tic /ˈkrɪptɪk/ *adj* secret or mysterious; difficult to understand, sometimes intentionally: *a cryptic message* | *a cryptic comment/remark* (=with hidden meaning) — compare ELLIPTICAL (3) — **~ally** /kli/ *adv*

crypto- see WORD FORMATION

cryp·to·gra·phy /krɪpˈtɒgrəfi‖-ˈtɑː-/ *n* [U] the study of secret writing and CODES —**-pher** *n* —**-phic** /ˌkrɪptəˈgræfɪk◂/ *adj* —**-phically** /kli/ *adv*

crys·tal /ˈkrɪstl/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a shaped piece of) a natural mineral that is either transparent, looking like ice, or is only slightly coloured **2** [U] colourless glass of very high quality: *a crystal wine glass* | *a crystal chandelier* **3** [C] a small regular shape with its surfaces in an even arrangement, formed naturally by a substance when it becomes solid: *crystals of salt* | *copper sulphate crystals* **4** [C] *AmE* the transparent cover over the face of a clock or watch

crys·tal ball /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* a ball of crystal or glass used by FORTUNE-TELLERS to look into the future: (fig.) *He's an expert but not even his crystal ball can tell us how the stock-market will change.* —see picture at FORTUNE TELLER

crystal clear /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *adj* very clearly stated or understood; allowing no possibility of doubt: *I'd like to make it crystal clear that I do not agree with these proposals.*

crystal gaz·ing /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [U] the practice of looking into a ball of crystal or glass in an attempt to see the future: (fig.) *The article contained some firm predictions, but also a lot of crystal gazing.* (=guessing about the future) —**-er** *n*

crys·tal·line /ˈkrɪstəlaɪn, -liːn‖-lən/ *adj* **1** of or like crystal; very clear; transparent: *a crystalline mountain stream* **2** made of CRYSTALS (3): *crystalline rocks*

crys·tal·lize also **-lise** *BrE* /ˈkrɪstəlaɪz/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) form CRYSTALS (3): *The liquid will crystallize at 50°C.* **2** [I;T] to (cause to) become clear and fixed in form: *a number of related ideas that gradually crystallized into a practical plan* **3** [T] to preserve (fruit) by covering with sugar: *crystallized cherries* —**-lization** /ˌkrɪstəlaɪˈzeɪʃən‖-lə-/ *n* [U]

Crystal Pal·ace /ˌ·· ˈ··/ [*the*] a building mainly of glass and iron, built in Hyde Park, London to contain the Great Exhibition of 1851. The Crystal Palace was destroyed by fire in 1936, but the name *Crystal Palace* is now used by an ATHLETICS ground and a football team.

crystal set /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a simple radio receiver of an old-fashioned kind

Cry, the Be·lov·ed Coun·try /ˈ· · ·ˌ·· ˌ··/ the title of a book by Alan Paton about life in South Africa after the Second World War

CSE /ˌsiː es ˈiː/ *n* Certificate of Secondary Education; an

examination in any of a range of subjects, at a lower level than the GCE, taken (until 1988) in British schools by pupils aged 15 or over: *She left school with three CSEs and five O levels.* —compare GCSE

C-sec·tion /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n infml* a CAESAREAN

C-SPAN /ˈ· ˌ·/ a US CABLE television station which broadcasts the US Congress and the meetings of its various committees

CS gas /ˌsiː es ˈgæs/ *n* [U] TEAR GAS

CST /ˌsiː es ˈtiː/ *abbrev. for* CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

CT *written abbrev. for* CONNECTICUT

CTC /ˌsiː tiː ˈsiː/ *n infml for* CITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE

cu *written abbrev. for:* CUBIC

cub /kʌb/ *n* **1** the young of various meat-eating wild animals, such as the lion, bear, etc.: *a fox and her cubs* | *lion cubs* **2** (*often cap.*) a member of the CUB SCOUTS **3** a young and inexperienced person: *a cub reporter on a newspaper*

Cu·ba /ˈkjuːbə/ the largest island in the West Indies. Cuba has been a republic since 1960, under the leadership of Fidel Castro; capital Havana —**Cuban** *n, adj* —see also Fidel CASTRO

►CULTURAL NOTE There are many Cuban REFUGEEs in the US; some came when the former government fell in 1959 and many others as BOAT PEOPLE in the 1980s. Most of them live in Florida. The present Communist government of Cuba is viewed very negatively by most Americans.◄

Cuban mis·sile cri·sis /ˌ·· ˈ·· ˌ··/ [*the*] a dangerous situation which developed in 1962 when the Soviet Union began to build bases for NUCLEAR MISSILEs in Cuba. US President John F. Kennedy complained and stopped ships from going to Cuba, and the Soviet Union agreed to remove the bases —see also BAY OF PIGS

cub·by·hole /ˈkʌbihəʊl/ *n* a small enclosed space, sometimes used either as a room or a cupboard: *She works in a little cubbyhole at the end of the corridor.*

cube[1] /kjuːb/ *n* **1** a solid object with six equal square sides: *a sugar cube* | *The box was cube-shaped.* **2** the number made by multiplying a number by itself twice: *The cube of 3 is 27.* (3×3×3=27)

cube[2] *v* [T] **1** to multiply a number by itself twice: *3 cubed* (written 3^3) *is 27.* **2** to cut (something) into cubes; DICE[2] (1)

cube root /ˌ· ˈ·‖ˈ· ·/ *n* the number which when multiplied by itself twice equals a particular number: *If 3 is the cube root of 27* (written $3\sqrt{27}$), *then 3×3×3=27.*

cu·bic /ˈkjuːbɪk/ *adj* being a measurement of space when the length of something is multiplied by its width and height: *a cubic centimetre* (often written as *cc*) | *a cubic metre|inch|foot* | *"What's the* **cubic capacity** (=size) *of this engine?" "2000 cc."*

cu·bi·cal /ˈkjuːbɪkəl/ also **cubic**—*adj* having the shape of a cube

cu·bi·cle /ˈkjuːbɪkəl/ *n* a very small division of a larger room, such as one used for dressing or undressing in at a swimming pool, or studying in a library

cub·ism /ˈkjuːbɪzəm/ *n* [U] (*often cap.*) a 20th century art style in which the subject matter is represented by GEOMETRIC shapes. Picasso and Braque are the most famous artists connected with Cubism. —**-ist** *n*

cubism



Trembling Woman by Picasso

cu·bit /ˈkjuːbɪt/ *n bibl* an ancient unit of length equal to the length of the arm between the wrist and the elbow

Cub Scout /ˈ· ˌ·/ also **cub** — *n* a member of a division of the SCOUTS for younger boys: *My little brother is in the Cub Scouts.* —compare BROWNIES

cuck·old[1] /ˈkʌkəld, ˈkʌkəʊld‖-kəld/ *n humor or derog, now rare* a man whose wife has had sex with another man since her marriage

cuckold[2] *v* [T] *humor or derog, now rare* (of a wife, or of another man) to make (the husband) into a cuckold

cuck·oo[1] /ˈkʊkuː‖ˈkuːkuː, ˈkʊ-/ *n* **-oos** a grey European bird that lays its eggs in other birds' nests for them to HATCH and has a call that sounds like its name

cuckoo[2] *adj sl* mad; foolish: *You're cuckoo!*

cuckoo clock /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a wall clock with a wooden bird inside that comes out to tell each hour with the call of a cuckoo —see picture at CLOCK

cu·cum·ber /ˈkjuːkʌmbəʳ/ *n* [C;U] a long thin round vegetable with a dark green skin and light green watery flesh, usu. cut in pieces and eaten raw —see picture at VEGETABLE

►CULTURAL NOTE Cucumber sandwiches are often thought of as very GENTEEL or English UPPER-CLASS.◄

cud /kʌd/ *n* [U] food that has been swallowed and brought up again to the mouth from the first stomach of certain animals which have four stomachs, such as the cow, for further eating: *cows in the meadow* **chewing the cud** — see also **chew the cud** (CHEW[1])

cud·dle[1] /ˈkʌdl/ *v* [I;T] to hold (someone, something, or each other) lovingly and closely in the arms: *The little girl cuddled her pet dog.* | *Susie and John were cuddling in the cinema.*

cuddle up *phr v* [I (**to,** TOGETHER)] to lie close and comfortably (together): *The children cuddled up to each other in bed.*

cuddle[2] *n* [S] an act of cuddling: *My little daughter came to me for a cuddle.* | *Give me a cuddle, mummy.*

cud·dle·some /ˈkʌdlsəm/ *adj* cuddly

cud·dly /ˈkʌdli/ *adj* lovable; suitable for cuddling: *a cuddly little baby*

cud·gel[1] /ˈkʌdʒəl/ *n* **1** a short thick heavy stick or similar object used as a weapon, esp. one that has a rough surface; short heavy CLUB[1] (4) **2 take up the cudgels (for)** *BrE* to begin to take part in an argument or struggle, esp. in support of a person, principle, etc.: *He took up the cudgels on behalf of the political prisoners.*

cudgel[2] *v* **-ll-** *BrE* ‖ **-l-** *AmE* [T] to beat with a cudgel: (fig.) *We* **cudgelled our brains** (=forced ourselves to think hard) *trying to remember the lost address.*

cue[1] /kjuː/ *n* **1** (esp. in a play) a word, phrase, or action that is the signal for the next person to speak or act: *The actor missed his cue and came onto the stage late.* **2** an action, event, etc., that provides a signal for something to be done or a standard that can be copied: *I wasn't sure what to do, so I* **took my cue** *from the person sitting next to me.* | *The fall in interest rates may be a cue for an upturn in consumer spending.* | *He shows up* **(right) on cue** (=exactly as expected) *every evening at suppertime.*

cue[2] *v*

cue sbdy. **in** *phr v* [T] to give (someone) a sign to be ready to do something: *The studio manager will cue you in when it's your turn to sing.*

cue[3] *n* a long straight wooden stick used for pushing the ball in games such as BILLIARDS and SNOOKER: *She chalked her cue again.* —see picture at BILLIARDS

cue ball /ˈ· ·/ *n* **1** the ball which a player hits with a CUE[3] in order to make other balls move in a game such as BILLIARDS **2** *AmE humor sl* a BALD person

cuff[1] /kʌf/ *n* **1** the end of a SLEEVE (=the arm of a garment) **2** *AmE for* TURN-UP (1): *trouser cuffs* **3 off the cuff** without preparation or consideration: *I'm afraid I can't answer your question off the cuff.* | *an off-the-cuff remark|estimate* —see also HANDCUFFS

cuff[2] *v* [T] to hit lightly with the open hand: *She cuffed the boy on the side of the head and pushed him into the car.* —**cuff** *n* : *He gave his son a cuff round the ear.*

cuff link /ˈ· ·/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] an object like two connected buttons used to fasten a shirt cuff through two BUTTONHOLEs —see PAIR[1] (USAGE)

cuffs /kʌfs/ *n* [P] *infml for* HANDCUFFS

cui·rass /kwɪˈræs/ *n* a piece of armour covering the upper half of the body but not the arms

cui·sine /kwɪˈziːn/ *n* [U] **1** a style of cooking: *French cuisine* **2** food that has been prepared: *When in Naples, try the excellent local cuisine.*

cul-de-sac /ˈkʌl də ˌsæk, ˈkʊl-‖ˌkʌl də ˈsæk, ˌkʊl-/ *n* a street with only one way in or out; BLIND ALLEY

cul·i·na·ry /ˈkʌlɪnəri‖ˈkʌlɪneri, ˈkjuːl-/ *adj fml* connected with or used in the kitchen or cooking: *culinary herbs*

cull[1] /kʌl/ *v* **1** [I;T] to kill the weakest or unwanted members of (a group of animals): *Every year the seals are culled to prevent their population from increasing.* **2** [T] *fml* to choose or collect (esp. information) from among others: *The facts were culled from various sources.*

cull[2] *n* **1** an act of culling: *a seal cull* **2** something found worthless as a result of culling: *Those potatoes over there are culls.*

cul·len·der /ˈkʌlɨndəʳ/ *n* a COLANDER

Cul·lod·en /kəˈlɒdn‖-ˈlɑː-/ (the place of) a battle in Scotland in 1746, in which the Jacobite army under Charles Edward Stuart ("Bonnie Prince Charlie") was severely defeated by the **Duke of Cumberland**, second son of King George the Second –see also **Charles Edward** STUART

cul·mi·nate /ˈkʌlmɨneɪt/ *v*

culminate in sthg. *phr v* [T] to reach the highest point, degree, or stage of development in; end in: *Their years of work culminated in the discovery of a cure.* | *a series of minor clashes culminating in full-scale war*

cul·mi·na·tion /ˌkʌlmɨˈneɪʃən/ *n* [*the* (**of**)] the last and highest point, when this is reached after a long period of effort or development; CLIMAX: *The discovery was the culmination of his life's work.*

cu·lottes /kjuːˈlɒts‖kjʊˈlɑːts/ *n* [P] women's short trousers shaped to look like a skirt –see PAIR (USAGE)

cul·pa·ble /ˈkʌlpəbəl/ *adj fml* deserving blame: *culpable negligence* –**bly** *adv* –**bility** /ˌkʌlpəˈbɪlɨti/ *n* [U]

cul·prit /ˈkʌlprɨt/ *n* the person guilty of a crime or responsible for a problem: *Someone was breaking windows, but we soon caught the culprit.* | (fig.) *Our prices are rising too quickly, and high production costs are the main culprit.*

cult /kʌlt/ *n* **1** (the group of people that follow) a system of worship, esp. one that is different from the usual and established forms of religion in a particular society, for example, the Moonies **2** a particular fashion or style, e.g. in art, music, or writing, that is followed with great interest and keenness by a fairly small group: *His music has become something of a cult.* | *Her books aren't best-sellers, but they have a certain* **cult following**. | *a cult movie* | *The Morris Minor convertible is rather a cult car in Britain.* –see also PERSONALITY CULT

cul·ti·va·ble /ˈkʌltɨvəbəl/ *adj* that can be cultivated

cul·ti·vate /ˈkʌltɨveɪt/ *v* [T] **1** to prepare (land) for the growing of crops **2** to plant, grow, and raise (a crop) by preparing the soil, providing water, etc. **3** to improve or develop (the mind, a feeling, etc.) by careful attention, training, or study: *to cultivate a knowledge of music* **4** to pay special and friendly attention to (someone that one regards as useful): *John always tries to cultivate people who might be able to help him professionally.*

cul·ti·vat·ed /ˈkʌltɨveɪtɨd/ *adj* **1** showing good education, manners, etc.; CULTURED: *a cultivated audience* **2** (of land) used for growing crops –opposite **uncultivated**

cul·ti·va·tion /ˌkʌltɨˈveɪʃən/ *n* [U] the process of cultivating: *to bring new land under cultivation* | *the cultivation of cotton*

cul·ti·va·tor /ˈkʌltɨveɪtəʳ/ *n* **1** a tool or machine for loosening earth, destroying unwanted plants, etc. **2** a person who cultivates, esp. a farmer

cul·tu·ral /ˈkʌltʃərəl/ *adj* of or related to culture: *concerts, plays, and other cultural events* | *the cultural diversity of the United States* – ~**ly** *adv*

cultural lit·e·ra·cy /ˌ··· ˈ····/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a good general knowledge of the CULTURE (1) of a society, esp. a knowledge of the history, literature, art, politics, GEOGRAPHY, science, religion, and FOLKLORE which form a part of that culture, and the knowledge of which is generally shared by the people of that society. The phrase was made famous by the book, *Cultural Literacy*, written by the American E.D. Hirsh, Jr. *et al*: *Immigrants often lack cultural literacy of their new country.*

Cultural Rev·o·lu·tion /ˌ··· ··ˈ··/ *n* [*the*] a mass movement in China begun by Mao Zedong in 1966 to renew the basic institutions of the country. The Cultural Revolution was marked by violence against educated people.

cul·ture /ˈkʌltʃəʳ/ *n* **1** [C;U] the customs, beliefs, art, music, and all the other products of human thought made by a particular group of people at a particular time: *ancient Greek culture* | *a tribal culture* | *pop culture* | *the* **culture gap** (=difference in culture) *between Britain and France* –compare CIVILIZATION; see also SUBCULTURE **2** [U] artistic and other activity of the mind, and the works produced by this: *Paris is a good city for people who are interested in culture.* | *a woman of culture and taste* **3** [U] the practice of raising animals and growing plants: *bee culture* –see also AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE **4** [C;U] (a group of bacteria produced by) the growing of bacteria for scientific use

Culture Club /ˈ·· ·/ a British popular music group, known esp. for their lead singer Boy George. One of their most successful records was *Karma Chameleon* in 1983.

cul·tured /ˈkʌltʃəd‖-ərd/ *adj* **1** having or showing good education, manners, and esp. an interest in art, music, literature, etc.: *cultured minds that like good books and paintings* –opposite **uncultured** **2** caused to grow by artificial means: *a cultured virus* | *cultured pearls*

culture shock /ˈ·· ·/ *n* [U] the feeling of shock or of being disorientated (DISORIENTATE) which someone has when they experience a different and unfamiliar culture

culture vul·ture /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n humor, sometimes derog* a person who is very interested in CULTURE (2) and knows a lot about it, although perhaps they do not make much effort to make judgments about it: *She moved to London, where she suddenly turned into a real culture vulture.*

cul·vert /ˈkʌlvət‖-ərt/ *n* a pipe for waste water that passes under a road, railway line, etc.

cum /kʊm, kʌm/ *prep* (used when one thing, place, event, etc., has two purposes or natures) combined with; together with: *a kitchen-cum-bathroom* (=both in one room) | *a lunch-cum-business meeting* –see also CUM LAUDE

cum·ber /ˈkʌmbəʳ/ *v* [T (**with**)] *rare* to ENCUMBER

cum·ber·some /ˈkʌmbəsəm‖-bər-/ also **cum·brous** /-brəs/ *rare– adj* heavy and awkward to carry, wear, etc.: *a cumbersome parcel|uniform* | (fig.) *the firm's cumbersome salary system*

Cum·bri·a /ˈkʌmbriə/ a COUNTY of NW England (since 1974), made up mostly of the old counties of **Cumberland** and **Westmorland**. It contains the beautiful Lake District National Park. –**brian** *adj*

cum·in /ˈkʌmɨn/ *n* [U] a plant whose pleasant-smelling seeds are used in cooking and medicine

cum laud·e /kʌm ˈlɔːdi, kʊm-, -ˈlaʊdeɪ‖kʊm ˈlaʊdi/ *adj, adv* [F] *Latin* with praise; recognition given by some American universities of special achievement: *She graduated cum laude from Harvard.* –compare HONOURS (2), MAGNA CUM LAUDE, SUMMA CUM LAUDE; see also DEGREE

cum·mer·bund /ˈkʌməbʌnd‖-ər-/ *n* a broad belt of cloth worn round a man's waist, esp. as part of formal evening dress

Cum·mings /ˈkʌmɪŋz/, **E E** (1894–1962) an American poet who is best remembered for the unusual ways in which he arranged the words and letters in his poems e.g. *Spring is like a perhaps hand*, and *anyone lived in a pretty how town*. He always wrote his name in small letters.

cum·quat /ˈkʌmkwɒt‖-kwɑːt/ *n* KUMQUAT

cu·mu·la·tive /ˈkjuːmjʊlətɪv‖-leɪtɪv/ also **accumulative**– *adj* increasing steadily in amount or degree by one addition after another: *cumulative interest payable on a debt* | *cumulative damage to the environment* – ~**ly** *adv*: *Cumulatively, the effects of the drug are disastrous.*

cu·mu·lus /ˈkjuːmjʊləs/ *n* [U] thick white feathery cloud with a flat base –compare CIRRUS, NIMBUS (1)

Cu·nard /kjuːˈnɑːd‖-ˈnɑːrd/ a company which has operated many famous passenger ships, including the QE2

cu·nei·form /ˈkjuːnifɔːm, ˈkjuːni-ɨfɔːm‖kjuːˈnɪəfɔːrm/ *adj, n* [U] (of or written in) the letters used in writing by the peoples of ancient Mesopotamia. From being drawings of objects and being written from top to bottom, they developed into signs for words and SYLLABLES and began to be written from left to right.

cun·ni·lin·gus /ˌkʌnɪˈlɪŋgəs/ *n* [U] the practice of touching the female sex organs with the lips and tongue in order to give sexual pleasure –compare FELLATIO

cun·ning[1] /ˈkʌnɪŋ/ *adj* **1** clever in deceiving; SLY: *as cunning as a fox* | *a cunning trick|person* **2** *infml rare, esp.*

AmE attractive; CUTE: *a cunning little girl* **3** *old use* skilful: *cunning hands* —~**ly** *adv*

cunning² *n* [U] **1** cleverness in deceiving; GUILE: *She showed considerable cunning in the way she avoided answering the question.* **2** *old use* skill

cunt /kʌnt/ *n taboo* **1** VAGINA **2** *sl, esp. BrE* a very unpleasant or stupid person

cup¹ /kʌp/ *n* **1** [C] a small round container, usu. with a handle, from which liquids are drunk, esp. hot liquids such as tea or coffee: *a cup and saucer | a chipped cup* — compare MUG¹ (1) **2** [C] also **cup·ful** /-fʊl/— **a** the amount a cup will hold: *Would you like a cup of coffee? | two cupfuls of sugar* **b** an exact measure of quantity used in cooking, equal to 0.3 British pints (0.5 American pints) or 0.28 litres **3** [C] something shaped like a cup: *the cup of a flower | bra cups* **4** [C] (a specially shaped usu. silver container given as a prize in) a competition, esp. in sport: *We won the cup for the first time this year.| She's been picked to play in the Wightman Cup.* **5** [C;U] a mixed alcoholic drink: *cider cup* **6** *AmE for* HOLE¹ (5) — see picture at GOLF **7 in one's cups** *old-fash euph* drunk **8 my cup runneth over** *phrase from the Bible* I am extremely happy and contented **9 one's cup of tea** the sort of thing one likes: *Jazz isn't really my cup of tea — I prefer disco music.*

cup² *v* **-pp-** [T] to form (the hands) into the shape of a cup: *He cupped his hands and I poured some water into them.| She cupped her hands round the mug of hot coffee.*

Cup [*the*] *infml for* FA CUP

cup·bear·er /ˈkʌpˌbeərəʳ/ *n* an official in a royal or noble court who serves wine on special occasions

cup·board /ˈkʌbəd‖-ərd/ *n* a piece of furniture with doors, or a set of shelves with doors, where clothes, plates, food, etc., can be stored: *The sugar's in the cupboard. | Put your shirts in the airing cupboard.* —compare CABINET, CLOSET; see picture at KITCHEN

cupboard love /ˈ·· ·/ *n* [U] love shown only for the purpose of gaining a reward, e.g. by a pet hoping for food

cup cake /ˈ· ·/ *n* a small round cake baked in a cup-shaped container

cup fi·nal /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n BrE* (esp. in football) the last match to decide the winning team in a competition —compare CUP TIE

Cup Final [*the*] (in Britain) the final of the FA Cup, played every year at Wembley

Cu·pid /ˈkjuːpɨd/ *n* **1** the Roman god of sexual love, i.e. love between a man and a woman, represented in art as a beautiful winged boy carrying a BOW³ and ARROWS. It was said that when one of his arrows hit a person, that person would immediately fall in love with someone: *After years apart, Joan and Malcolm were reunited — by their Cupid daughter, Linda. | She had planned to use Mr Parnell to further her husband's career, but Cupid's dart struck.* **2 play Cupid (to someone)** to arrange for two people to fall in love: *The US Navy is playing Cupid to dolphins, encouraging them to mate.*

cu·pid·i·ty /kjʊˈpɪdɨti/ *n* [U] *fml derog* very great desire, esp. for money and property; GREED

cu·po·la /ˈkjuːpələ/ *n* a small DOME on top of a building

cup·pa /ˈkʌpə/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] *BrE infml* a cup of tea: *I'm dying for a cuppa.*

cu·pric /ˈkjuːprɪk/ *adj tech* containing copper

cup tie /ˈ· ·/ *n BrE* (esp. in football) a match between two teams competing in a competition —compare CUP FINAL

cur /kɜːʳ/ *n old use or humor* **1** a fierce dog, esp. a MONGREL **2** a worthless unpleasant person

cu·ra·ble /ˈkjʊərəbəl/ *adj* (of a disease) that can be cured — opposite **incurable** —**-bly** *adv*

cu·ra·çao /ˈkjʊərəsəʊ, ˌkjʊərəˈsəʊ/ *n* [U] a strong thick sweet alcoholic drink, tasting of oranges, usu. drunk from a small glass after a meal

cu·rate /ˈkjʊərɨt/ *n* a priest of the lowest rank, appointed to help the priest of a PARISH

curate's egg /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [S] *BrE* something that has both good and bad parts: *The play was rather like the curate's egg, and the good parts of it were excellent.*

cu·ra·tive /ˈkjʊərətɪv/ *n, adj* (something) that cures an illness: *the curative powers of a new drug|the town's special water*

cu·ra·tor /kjʊˈreɪtəʳ/ *n* the person in charge of a MUSEUM, library, etc. —~**ship** *n*

curb¹ /kɜːb‖kɜːrb/ *n* **1** a controlling influence; CHECK: *Keep a curb on your temper.* **2** *AmE for* KERB —see picture at HOUSE **3** a length of chain or leather passing under a horse's jaw and fastened to the BIT²

curb² *v* [T] to control (something undesirable, such as strong feelings, wasteful spending, etc.); RESTRAIN: *to curb one's extravagance|enthusiasm | new efforts to curb drug trafficking*

curd /kɜːd‖kɜːrd/ also **curds** *pl.*— *n* [U] the thick soft almost solid substance that separates from milk when it becomes sour, eaten as food or used for making cheese — compare WHEY; see also LEMON CURD

curd cheese /ˌ· ˈ· ‖ ˈ· ·/ *n* [U] a smooth sharp-tasting soft cheese made from the curds of milk

cur·dle /ˈkɜːdl‖ˈkɜːrdl/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) form into curd; (cause to) thicken: (fig.) *Their screams* **made my blood curdle** *with terror.* —see also BLOODCURDLING

cure¹ /kjʊəʳ/ *v* [T] **1** [(**of**)] to bring health to (a person) in place of disease or illness: *When I left hospital I was completely cured. | This medicine will cure you of your cough.* | (fig.) *A spell in the army will cure him of his laziness!* —compare TREAT¹ (4) **2** to make (a disease, illness, etc.) go completely away, esp. by medical treatment: *The only way to cure backache is to rest.* | (fig.) *government action to cure unemployment* —compare HEAL; see TREAT (USAGE) **3** to preserve (food, skin, tobacco, etc.) by drying it, hanging it in smoke, covering it with salt, etc.: *The tobacco leaves are cured in wood-smoke.*

cure² *n* **1** [(**for**)] a medicine that cures an illness, disease, etc.: *There is still no cure for the common cold.* | (fig.) *a cure for inflation|unemployment* **2** a return to health after illness: *The new treatment effected a miraculous cure.* **3** a course of medical treatment: *to take the cure for alcoholism* —see also REST CURE

cu·ré /ˈkjʊəreɪ‖kjʊˈreɪ/ *n* a PARISH priest in France

cure-all /ˈ· ·/ *n* something that can cure any illness, deal with any problem, etc.; PANACEA

cu·ret·tage /kjʊəˈretɪdʒ‖ˌkjʊrəˈtɑːʒ/ *n* [U] the removal of diseased flesh and skin from the body (e.g. from inside the WOMB) with a special medical instrument (**curette**)

cur·few /ˈkɜːfjuː‖ˈkɜːr-/ *n* **1** [C] a rule that all people should remain indoors at stated times: *to impose a curfew | a curfew from midnight to 8 o'clock in the morning* **2** [U] the time during which people must be indoors according to this rule: *We mustn't go out during curfew.*

cu·ri·a /ˈkjʊəriə/ *n* **-iae** /i-iː/ [*the*] (*often cap.*) the POPE and the officials helping him in the government of the Roman Catholic Church

Cu·rie /ˈkjʊəri/, **Ma·rie** /ˈmɑːri‖məˈriː/ (1867–1934) a famous French PHYSICIST, born in Poland, who with her husband Pierre discovered POLONIUM and RADIUM, and added to what was known about RADIOACTIVITY

cu·ri·o /ˈkjʊəriəʊ/ *n* **-ios** a usu. small object, valuable because of its age, rarity, or beauty

cu·ri·os·i·ty /ˌkjʊəriˈɒsɨti‖-ˈɑːs-/ *n* **1** [S;U] the desire to know or learn: *There was (an) intense curiosity about their wedding plans.* [+*to-v*] *We were* **burning with curiosity** *to know what had happened.* **2** [C] a strange or rare object, custom, etc.: *This old map is quite a curiosity.* **3 curiosity killed the cat** *saying* (a phrase used to someone to tell them not to be so INQUISITIVE)

cu·ri·ous /ˈkjʊəriəs/ *adj* **1** [(**as to, about**)] eager to know or learn, esp. about something unfamiliar or mysterious; INQUISITIVE: *I'm curious about|as to what happened. | The tourists were surrounded by curious children.* [+*to-v*] *We were curious to know where she'd gone.* —opposite **incurious** **2** odd or unusual, esp. in a way that is hard to explain: *a curious noise|state of affairs | It's curious that she left without saying goodbye.* **3 curiouser and curiouser** *quote* a phrase from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll, used by Alice when she suddenly grew very tall. People remember it because we would usu. say that something was *even more curious*, not *curiouser*, and so it is often used humorously —see also ALICE IN WONDERLAND — ~**ly** *adv* : *She watched curiously as I opened the box. | Curiously (enough), we had met before.*

curl¹ /kɜːl‖kɜːrl/ *n* **1** a small hanging mass of hair in a

curving shape. Curls are often noticed and remarked on by people in Britain and the US, and many people curl their hair artificially, e.g. using curlers or CURLING TONGS, or by having a PERM[1]: *a little boy with beautiful blonde curls* —compare WAVE[2] (5); see also CURLY **2** something with the shape of a curl: *A curl of smoke rose from her cigarette.* | (fig.) *a curl of the lip* (=showing SCORN)

curl[2] *v* [I;T (UP)] **1** to twist into or form a curl or curls: *I don't like my hair straight so I'm going to have it curled.* | *The dying leaves became brown and curled up.* | *Smoke curled* (=moved in a SPIRAL) *out of the chimney.* **2** to (cause to) go in a winding direction: *The climbing plant curled round the trunk of the tree.*

curl up *phr v* [I] to lie comfortably with the arms and legs drawn close to the body: *She curled up in front of the fire with a book.*

curl·er /ˈkɜːləʳ‖ˈkɜːr-/ *n* [*often pl.*] an object around which hair is twisted to make it curl. In old books and films, women are often shown wearing their curlers at bedtime or in the early morning, and not wanting anyone, esp. a man they do not know, to see them like this. In Britain curlers are thought of as being worn mostly by WORKING-CLASS women, and women shown in curlers are often smoking a cigarette and in a rather untidy home environment. —see picture at ROLL

cur·lew /ˈkɜːljuː‖ˈkɜːrluː/ *n* a long-legged brownish water bird with a long curved beak

cur·li·cue , curlycue /ˈkɜːlɪkjuː‖ˈkɜːr-/ *n* a decorative twisted pattern, such as one made with a pen

curl·ing /ˈkɜːlɪŋ‖ˈkɜːr-/ *n* [U] a Scottish and Canadian winter sport played by sliding flat heavy stones (**curling stones**) over ice towards a mark called the **tee**

curling tongs /ˈ·· ˌ·/ also **curling i·ron(s)** /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [*pl.*] a piece of electrical equipment which is heated and has a handle joined to a metal rod (around which the hair is wound) and another long piece of metal to keep the hair in place until a curl is formed

curl·y /ˈkɜːli‖ˈkɜːrli/ *adj* having curls or tending to curl: *curly hair* —**-iness** *n* [U]

cur·mud·geon /kɜːˈmʌdʒən‖kɜːr-/ *n old use or humor* a bad-tempered old person — ~**ly** *adj*

cur·rant /ˈkʌrənt‖ˈkɜːr-/ *n* **1** a small dried seedless GRAPE, esp. used in baking cakes: *currant buns* **2** (*esp. in comb.*) the small black, red, or white juicy fruit that grows in bunches on certain bushes: *a redcurrant* | *a blackcurrant*

cur·ren·cy /ˈkʌrənsi‖ˈkɜːr-/ *n* **1** [C;U] the particular type of money in use in a country: *the different currencies of Europe* | *the proposed single European currency* | *The British teachers in China were paid in local currency.* (=in the money of China) | *currency dealers* —see also HARD CURRENCY, SINGLE CURRENCY **2** [U] *fml* the state of being generally believed or accepted: *Reports about the president's illness are* **gaining currency** *among foreign journalists.*

cur·rent[1] /ˈkʌrənt‖ˈkɜːr-/ *adj* **1** belonging to the present time; of the present day: *They are expecting profits of over $2 million in the current year.* | *the current issue of "The New Yorker"* | *This word is no longer in current use.* — see NEW (USAGE) **2** *tech* (of money) officially acceptable as currency: — ~**ly** *adv* : *The rate of inflation currently stands at 7%.*

current[2] *n* **1** [C] a continuously moving mass of liquid or gas, esp. one flowing through slower-moving liquid or gas: *The current is strongest in the middle of the river.* | *currents of hot air* | (fig.) *the current of public opinion* **2** [C;U] the flow of electricity past a fixed point: *This button switches the current on.* —see also ALTERNATING CURRENT, DIRECT CURRENT

current ac·count /ˈ·· ·ˌ·/ *BrE* ‖**checking account** *AmE*— *n* a bank account which usu. earns little or no interest and from which money can be taken out at any time by cheque —compare DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

current af·fairs /ˌ·· ·ˈ·/ also **current events** *n* [*pl.*] important things that are happening in the world at the present time —**current affairs** *adj* : *a current affairs programme|class*

current as·sets /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [P] ASSETS such as STOCK, money in the form of coins or notes, and debts owed, which change quickly in the course of day-to-day business

current li·a·bil·i·ties /ˌ·· ··ˈ···/ *n* [P] money which is owed to a business and is expected to be paid within 12 months

cur·ric·u·lum /kəˈrɪkjʊləm/ *n* **-la** /lə/ *or* **-lums** a course of study offered in a school, college, etc.: *Has computer studies been introduced into the school curriculum?* — compare SYLLABUS, TIMETABLE[1] (2)

curriculum vi·tae /kəˌrɪkjʊləm ˈviːtaɪ/ *n* **curriculum vitaes** *or* **curricula vitae** /-kjʊlə-/ [*usu. sing.*] *fml* a short written account of a person's education and past employment; CV —see also JOB (CULTURAL NOTE)

Cur·rie /ˈkʌri‖ˈkɜː-/, **Ed·wi·na** /edˈwiːnə/ (1946–) a British Conservative politician and former minister for health. In December 1988 she made a speech in which she claimed that most British eggs were infected by SALMONELLA. There was much protest about her speech, and she resigned from her job as junior Health Minister later in the month.

Cur·ri·er and Ives /ˌkʌriər ənd ˈaɪvz‖ˌkɜː-/ *adj* typical of a style of American art, named after the two men who invented it. It shows scenes from daily life in 19th century America.

cur·ry[1] /ˈkʌri‖ˈkɜːri/ *n* [C;U] a type of food from India and other parts of S Asia, consisting of meat, vegetables, etc., cooked in a thick often hot-tasting liquid and usu. eaten with rice or special bread: *I like hot curries.* | *a (plate of) chicken curry with rice*

►CULTURAL NOTE British people often make jokes about curry upsetting your stomach so that you keep going to the toilet.◄

curry[2] *v* [T *usu. pass.*] to make (meat, vegetables, etc.) into a curry: *curried chicken* | *curried eggs*

curry[3] *v* [T] **1** to rub and clean (a horse) with a special comb (**currycomb**) **2 curry favour** to try to win attention by insincere means: *to curry favour with one's teacher*

curry pow·der /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [U] a mixture of hot SPICES (=strong-tasting dried vegetable parts) crushed into a fine powder, used in cooking

curse[1] /kɜːs‖kɜːrs/ *v* **1** [T] to express a wish that great misfortune will happen to (someone), esp. by calling on magical powers: *The witchdoctor cursed me, and my children and grandchildren too.* | *She cursed him for ruining her life.* —opposite **bless** **2** [I;T] to swear (at): *She cursed the car when it refused to start.* **3 be cursed with** to suffer misfortune or great harm because of: *She was cursed with a stammer all her life.*

curse[2] *n* **1** [C (**on**)] a word or sentence asking God, heaven, etc., to make something evil or harmful happen to someone or something. In Western countries people do not generally believe that curses can work: *an ancient and powerful curse* | *Our tribe is under a curse.* | *The witch doctor put a curse on him.* | *to utter a curse* **2** [C (**to**)] a cause of trouble, harm, etc.: *Foxes can be a curse to farmers.* **3** [C] a word or words used in swearing; word or words expressing anger, hate, etc.: *She gave a couple of curses and then got up again.* **4** [*the*] *euph sl* (a time of) menstruating (MENSTRUATE): *She's got the curse.*

curs·ed /ˈkɜːsɪd‖ˈkɜːr-/ also **curst** /kɜːst‖kɜːrst/— *adj* [A] *old-fash infml* hateful; annoying: *I wish that cursed dog would be quiet.* — ~**ly** *adv*

cur·sive /ˈkɜːsɪv‖ˈkɜːr-/ *adj* (of writing) written in a flowing rounded style with the letters joined together; in the style of handwriting rather than printing — ~**ly** *adv*

cur·sor /ˈkɜːsəʳ‖ˈkɜːr-/ *n* a mark or a small light which can be moved around a SCREEN[1] (4) connected to a computer, in order to do operations at a particular position

cur·so·ry /ˈkɜːsəri‖ˈkɜːr-/ *adj* (of work, reading, etc.) quick and not thorough; done without attention to details: *Even a* **cursory glance** *at the report showed that it was full of mistakes.* —**-rily** *adv*

curt /kɜːt‖kɜːrt/ *adj* (of a person, his/her manner, etc.) saying too little to be polite; BLUNT[1] (2): *a curt reply|manner* — ~**ly** *adv* — ~**ness** *n* [U]

cur·tail /kɜːˈteɪl‖kɜːr-/ *v* [T] *fml* to reduce in degree or effect; limit: *Owing to the war, the government's public health programme had to be severely curtailed.* — ~**ment** *n* [C;U]

cur·tain[1] /ˈkɜːtn‖ˈkɜːrtn/ *n* **1** a piece of hanging cloth that can be pulled across to cover a window or door, to divide

a room, etc.: *velvet curtains* | *It's getting dark – I'd better* **draw the curtains.** (=pull them across the window) | (fig.) *The castle was hidden behind a thick curtain of smoke.* –see picture at LIVING ROOM **2** a sheet of heavy material that can be lowered across the front of a stage in a theatre: *As the curtain rises, a dead body is seen on the stage.* **3 curtain up** (the time of) the raising of the curtain in the theatre –see also CURTAINS, DRAPES, IRON CURTAIN, SAFETY CURTAIN –see picture at THEATRE

curtain[2] *v* [T] to provide with a curtain

curtain sthg. ↔ **off** *phr v* [T] to separate or divide off with a curtain: *One of the beds in the hospital ward was curtained off.*

curtain call /ˈ·· ·/ *n* the appearance of actors at the end of a performance for APPLAUSE: *She took seven curtain calls.*

curtain hook /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a small plastic or metal hook which is joined to the back of the top of a curtain and also to a curtain ring: *There are twenty rings and only fourteen curtain hooks.*

curtain rail /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a length of plastic or metal placed at the top of a window, from which curtains hang and along which they may be pulled: *The sooner the curtain rail goes up the sooner we can have a bit of privacy.*

curtain rais·er /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a short play acted before the main play: (fig.) *This project is a curtain raiser for a much bigger programme of research.*

curtain ring /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a plastic, metal or wooden ring which connects with a curtain hook and moves along the curtain rail or rod: *I want some plastic curtain rings for the shower curtain.*

curtain rod /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a rod placed at the top of a window or door bearing rings which can move freely along its length and from which a curtain hangs

cur·tains /ˈkɜːtnz‖ˈkɜːr-/ *n* [P] *sl* the end, esp. of a person's life: *If your work doesn't improve it will be curtains for you.* (=you'll be dismissed)

curt·sy, -sey /ˈkɜːtsi‖ˈkɜːr-/ *n* a woman's act of respect to a person of higher rank, esp. to a member of a royal family, done by bending the knees and lowering the head and shoulders –compare BOW[2] (1) –**curtsy** *v* [I]

cur·va·ceous , -cious /kɜːˈveɪʃəs‖kɜːr-/ *adj infml, often humor* (of a woman) having a pleasingly well developed figure, with attractive curves – ~**ly** *adv*

cur·va·ture /ˈkɜːvətʃəʳ‖ˈkɜːr-/ *n* [C;U] **1** the state of being curved or the degree to which something is curved: *the curvature of the Earth's surface* **2** *med* (an) unnatural curving of a body part, usu. causing pain or illness: *curvature of the spine*

curve[1] /kɜːv‖kɜːrv/ *n* **1** a line of which no part is straight and which contains no angles; a rounded bend: *a curve in the road/the river* **2** also **curve ball** /ˈ· ·/– (in BASEBALL) a throw in which the ball spins so that it curves unexpectedly and is difficult to hit: (fig.) *The reporter* **threw** *the politician* **a curve** *by asking him an unexpected question.*

curve[2] *v* [I;T] to (cause to) bend in the shape of a curve: *The road curved to the right.*

Cush·ing /ˈkʊʃɪŋ/, **Peter** (1913–) an English actor known esp. for acting in HORROR FILMS (=films that frighten) and for playing the part of Sherlock Holmes in the film *The Hound of the Baskervilles.*

cush·ion[1] /ˈkʊʃən/ *n* **1** a bag filled with a soft substance on which a person can lie, sit, or rest comfortably: *He lay on the sofa with a cushion under his head.* –compare PILLOW[1] (1); see picture at LIVING ROOM **2** something like this in shape or purpose: *Hovercrafts ride on a cushion of air.* **3** the soft rubber border on the inside edge of a table used in the game of BILLIARDS

cushion[2] *v* [T] **1** to reduce the force or (unpleasant) effects of: *Nothing can cushion the shock of the tragedy.* | *The training programme helps to cushion the effects of unemployment.* **2** [(**against**)] to protect from hardship or sudden change: *He was cushioned against inflation by his government pension.* **3** [*usu. pass.*] to provide with cushions: *a cushioned seat*

cush·y /ˈkʊʃi/ *adj infml* **1** (of a job, style of life, etc.) needing little effort; too easy, esp. in a way that makes other people jealous **2 a cushy number** an easy job: *You've landed yourself a cushy little number here, Tom!* –**-iness** *n* [U]

cusp /kʌsp/ *n tech* **1** the point formed by two curves meeting: *the cusp of the moon in its first quarter* **2** the time represented by the end of one sign of the ZODIAC and the beginning of the next: *I was born* **on the cusp** *(of Capricorn and Aquarius).*

cus·pi·dor /ˈkʌspəˌdɔːʳ/ *n AmE for* SPITTOON

cuss[1] /kʌs/ *n sl* **1** a curse **2** a person of the stated, usu. unpleasant kind: *an irritable old cuss*

cuss[2] *v* [I;T] *sl* to curse

cuss box /ˈ· ·/ *n AmE* SWEAR BOX

cuss·ed /ˈkʌsəd/ *adj sl* **1** too unwilling to change one's opinions, actions, etc., even when they are clearly mistaken; OBSTINATE **2** *rare* hateful or annoying; CURSED – ~**ly** *adv* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

cus·tard /ˈkʌstəd‖-ərd/ *n* **1** [U] *esp. BrE* a yellow liquid for pouring over sweet foods, made of sweetened milk thickened with eggs and flour, or made with a dry mixture of these sold as **custard powder**: *apple pie and hot custard* **2** [C;U] a soft usu. baked mixture of sweetened milk and eggs: *a caramel custard*

custard cream /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n BrE* a sweet BISCUIT filled with a mixture tasting of custard

custard pie /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* a flat pastry case that contains custard, or something intended to look like custard, that is thrown at someone. The throwing of custard pies at people is typical of SLAPSTICK humour, both on stage and in films, and many people consider it to be funny.

Cus·ter /ˈkʌstəʳ/, **General George Armstrong** (1839–76) a US Army officer who first became famous in the American Civil War. He was later killed, with all the men under his command, by Sioux Native Americans, led by Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull, at the Little Bighorn River in Montana in a battle known as **Custer's Last Stand**.

cus·to·di·al /kʌˈstəʊdiəl/ *adj* of or connected with custody, esp. of criminals: *The offender was too young to be given a custodial sentence.* (=a period in prison)

cus·to·di·an /kʌˈstəʊdiən/ *n* **1** a person in charge of a public building; keeper of a library, castle, etc. This word is often the official title for such a person: *the custodian of the royal library* **2** *fml* a person with custody over someone or something: (fig.) *politicians who set themselves up as custodians of public morality* – ~**ship** *n* [U]

cus·to·dy /ˈkʌstədi/ *n* [U] **1** [(**of**)] the act or right of looking after someone and making decisions about their education, medical treatment, etc., esp. when this right is given in a court of law: *After his divorce, the father was* **awarded/granted** (=given) **custody** *of the children.* | *a terrible custody battle between the two parents* **2** [(**in, into**)] the state of being guarded, esp. by the police: *The man has now been taken into custody.* (=he is being kept in a police prison before going in front of a judge) | *She was* **held in** *police* **custody** *for six hours.* –see also PROTECTIVE CUSTODY

cus·tom /ˈkʌstəm/ *n* **1** [C;U] (an) established and habitual practice, esp. of a religious or social kind, that is typical of a particular group of people: *a tribal custom hundreds of years old* | *Social customs vary greatly from country to country.* **2** [C] the habitual practice of a person: *It was his custom to get up early and have a cold bath.* –see HABIT (USAGE) **3** [U] *BrE* ‖ **patronage** *AmE* regular support given to a shop by those who buy its goods or services: *We lost a lot of custom when the new supermarket opened.* –see also CUSTOMS

custom and prac·tice /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ *n* [U] (in law) an established practice which by long continuance has earned the force of a law or right esp. the established practice of a particular profession, society, area etc.

cus·tom·a·ry /ˈkʌstəməri‖-meri/ *adj fml* established by custom; usual or habitual: *It is customary to wear formal clothes on these occasions.* | *"I hate it," he said, with his customary candour.* –**-rily** /mərəli‖ˌkʌstəˈmerəli/ *adv*

custom-built /ˌ·· ˈ·◂/ *adj* (of a car, machine, etc.) made especially for one person or group of people

cus·tom·er /ˈkʌstəməʳ/ *n* **1** a person or organization that buys goods or services from a shop, business, etc., esp. regularly: *The new shop across the road has taken away most of my customers.* | *This company is one of the Post Office's biggest customers.* | *The new sugar-free drinks were produced in response to customer demand.* | *a valued*

customer —compare PATRON **2** *sl* a person of the stated kind: *an odd customer | She's rather a tricky customer to do business with.* **3 the customer is always right** one should always show respect to the customers, even if they are being very unreasonable or unpleasant; a phrase that is believed to be used by people who work in shops

▷USAGE When people go out to buy things in shops, they are **shoppers:** *a busy street full of* **shoppers.** When people buy things from a particular shop, they are that shop's **customers:** *Mrs Low can't come to the telephone – she's serving a* **customer.** If you are paying for professional services, e.g. from a lawyer or a bank, you are a **client,** but in the case of medical services you are a **patient.** If you are staying in a hotel, you are a **guest.** If you are using transportation services you are a **passenger**, though increasingly **customer** is also used in this sense.◁

cus·tom·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /ˈkʌstəmaɪz/ *v* [T] to make, build, or change especially for one person

custom-made /ˌ·· ˈ·◂/ *adj* (of an article of clothing, pair of shoes, etc.) made specially for one person or group of people

cus·toms /ˈkʌstəmz/ *n* [P] **1** (*often cap.*) a place where travellers' belongings can be searched when leaving or entering a country, esp. to see if they are trying to SMUGGLE anything into the country: *As soon as I'd got through customs I jumped into a taxi. | When you get to Customs, go straight through the 'Nothing to declare' channel, the green one.* **2** taxes paid on goods entering or leaving a country: *Have you paid* **customs duty** *on this camera?* **3** (*often cap.*) the government organization established to collect these taxes —compare EXCISE[1]

customs and ex·cise /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ *n* (*often caps.*) the part of the British taxation system which collects INDIRECT taxes; these are CUSTOMS (2), EXCISE, and VAT. Direct taxes (taxes on people's income) are collected by the Inland Revenue.

customs of·fic·er /ˈ·· ˌ···/ also **customs of·fi·cial** /ˈ·· ·ˌ··/— *n* a government official whose job it is to make sure that customs duties are paid on goods entering a country, and that illegal goods are not brought into the country. In films, books, etc., customs officers usually ask "Have you anything to declare?": *A customs officer checked our luggage at the port. | Customs officers seized a quarter of a million pounds' worth of heroin.*

cut[1] /kʌt/ *v* **cut,** *present participle* **cutting** to do something using a sharp edge or instrument **1** [I;T] to make a narrow opening in (something) with a sharp edge or instrument, accidentally or on purpose: *Be careful not to cut your fingers on the broken glass. | I cut myself|my face when I was shaving. | We had to cut through the car door to free the trapped man.* **2** [T+*obj*+*adv*|*prep*] to remove from the main part of something with a sharp instrument: *I cut the picture out of the newspaper. | Cut the rind off the cheese. | The surgeon cut away the diseased tissue from the patient's lungs.* | (fig.) *Some scenes have been cut from the film.* **3** [T (UP)] to divide or separate with a sharp edge or instrument: *The boys cut the cake in two and ate half each.* **4** [T] to make by using a sharp instrument: *to cut a hole in a piece of cloth | We cut our way through the forest. | I cut myself free|loose with my axe.* **5** [I+*adv*] to be able to be separated, divided, or marked with a sharp instrument: *A freshly baked loaf doesn't cut easily.* —see BREAK (USAGE) to make something smaller or shorter **6** [T] to shorten with a sharp instrument **a** in order to improve the appearance: *to cut the grass|one's fingernails | I'm having my hair cut tomorrow.* (=someone will cut it for me) **b** before gathering a crop: *to cut the corn* **7** [T] to make less in size, amount, value, etc.; reduce: *The company has cut the workforce by half.* (=reduced the number of workers to half its former level) | *The new machinery was introduced in an effort to cut labour costs. | Your speech is too long – it needs cutting.* **8** [T] to put (a film or recording) into completed form by rearranging it, removing unwanted parts, etc.; EDIT to stop or interrupt something **9** [T (OFF)] to interrupt (a supply of gas, electricity, etc.): *The electricity was cut (off) for two hours yesterday.* **10** [I] to stop photographing a scene when making a film: *"Cut!" shouted the director.* other meanings **11** [T] to grow (a tooth): *Our baby's just cutting her first teeth so she cries a lot.* **12** [T] to hurt the feelings of, esp. by saying something nasty: *His joke cut me deeply. | a cutting remark* **13** [T] *infml* to be intentionally absent from (a class, school, etc.): *to cut a lecture* **14** [I;T] to divide (a pile of playing cards) in two before starting to play **15** [T] to cross: *The line AC is cut by line PQ at point Z. | A path had been worn in the grass where people had* **cut the corner.** (=gone across instead of round the edge) **16** [T] (in some sports, such as GOLF or cricket) to make (a ball) spin by hitting it with a downward movement **17** [T] *infml* to make (a RECORD[2] (5)): *They cut their first single in 1992.* fixed phrases **18** [I (**with**)] to DILUTE; weaken the purity of: *The heroin was cut with powdered milk.* **19 cut a figure** *old-fash* to be impressive because of one's appearance: *Sir Giles cut quite a figure* (=looked very fine) *at the ball last night.* **20 cut and run** *sl, rather old-fash* to escape by running **21 cut a swath through** to destroy the main part of: *The storm cut a swath through the town.* **22 cut both/two ways** (of an action) to have disadvantages as well as advantages for both people or both sides **23 cut corners** to do something in a less than perfect way in order to save time, money, etc. **24 cut it fine** to leave oneself very little time, money, etc., to do what is needed **25 cut no ice/not much ice (with)** to have little or no effect or influence (on someone), esp. to fail to impress (someone): *Your empty promises won't cut any ice with her.* **26 cut one's coat according to one's cloth** *BrE* to avoid spending more than one earns **27 cut one's losses** to stop taking part in a failing business, firm, etc., before one loses too much money **28 cut one's teeth on/in (something)** to gain one's first experience from doing (something) **29 cut someone (dead)** to refuse to recognize someone one knows, in order to be rude: *I saw Jane in town today but she cut me dead.* **30 cut someone some slack** to give someone a little freedom to do as they wish **31 cut something short** to bring something to an end suddenly and before the proper time: *The accident forced them to cut their holiday short|to cut short their holiday. | Well,* **to cut a long story short** (=without telling you all the details), *we finally reached London at four in the morning.* **32 cut the ground from under/beneath someone's feet** to destroy someone's chances of success by taking their ideas or acting before them: *They cut the ground from under my feet by printing a story on the same subject the week before mine.* **33 cut up rough** *BrE infml* to become (violently) angry: *When the policewoman stopped the car, its driver cut up rough and tried to hit her.* phrasal verbs

cut across sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** to take a shorter way across (a field, corner, etc.) **2** to go beyond or across the limits of: *a new political grouping that cuts across party lines*

cut back *phr v* **1** [T] (**cut** sthg. ↔ **back**) to cut (a plant) close to the stem; PRUNE[2] (2) **2** [I (**on**);T (=**cut** sthg. ↔ **back**)] to reduce (an amount spent, produced, etc.): *We oppose any plans to cut back (on) the education budget.* —see also CUTBACK

cut down *phr v* **1** [T] (**cut** sthg. ↔ **down**) to bring down by cutting: *to cut down a tree* **2** [T] (**cut** sbdy. ↔ **down**) to knock down, wound, or kill (someone), esp. in a cruel and unjust way: *Several soldiers were cut down by the machine-gun fire. | He was* **cut down in his prime.** (=killed at the best time of life) **3** [I (**on**);T (=**cut** sthg. ↔ **down**)] to reduce (an amount done, eaten, etc.): *I haven't given up drinking but I'm cutting down. | The doctor told me to cut down (on) smoking.* **4** [T] (**cut** sthg. ↔ **down**) to reduce the length of (a piece of clothing): *If you cut down these trousers they'll fit your daughter.* **5 cut someone down to size** *infml* to show someone to be less good or important than they think they are

cut in *phr v infml* **1** [I (**on**)] to interrupt someone who is talking: *I'm sorry to cut in on your conversation, but...* **2** [I (**on**)] to drive into a space between cars in a dangerous way: *You nearly caused a crash by cutting in (on me) like that!* **3** [I (**on**)] (of a machine) to begin to operate when needed: *The temperature rose, and the fridge suddenly cut in.* **4** [I (**on**)] to stop two people dancing in order to replace one of them **5** [T(**cut** sbdy. ↔ **in**)] to include (someone) in a profitable situation: *If you'll work on Sunday I'll cut you in for half the take.*

cut off *phr v* [T] (**cut** sbdy./sthg. ↔ **off**) **1** to separate by cutting; SEVER: *Her little finger was cut off in an accident at the factory.* **2** to disconnect or discontinue: *We were cut off in the middle of our conversation.* (=the telephone was disconnected) | *They had their electricity cut off because they didn't pay the bill. | The President decided to cut off foreign aid to these countries.* **3** to block off or

surround so that further movement out or in is impossible: *The soldiers were cut off from the main part of the army.* | (fig.) *Mary felt cut off from her friends when we moved.* **4** to take away from (a person) the right to have one's property when one is dead; DISINHERIT: *If you marry that man I'll* **cut you off without a penny!** (=leave you with no money) **5 cut off one's nose to spite one's face** to take action, because one is angry, that results in damage to oneself —see also CUTOFF

cut out *phr v* **1** [T **(of)**] (**cut** sthg. ↔ **out**) to remove by cutting: *She cut the advertisement out of the newspaper.* **2** [T] (**cut** sthg. ↔ **out**) to make by cutting: *to cut out a dress* **3** [T] (**cut** sthg. ↔ **out**) *infml* to leave out; stop (esp. a harmful activity): *I must cut out cigarettes|going to bed late.* | *I like your article, but would you cut out the reference to the Kennedys?* **4** [I] (of a machine) to stop suddenly: *The engine keeps cutting out when I go up hills.* **5 cut it/that out** *infml* to stop it: *The children were fighting so their mother told them to cut it out or go to bed.* **6 cut out for something/to do something** (*usu. in negatives*) naturally well suited for something: *I'm just not cut out for city life.* **7 have one's work cut out (for one)** *infml* to have a lot of work to do: *They'll have their work cut out if they want to build the dam in six months.* —see also CUTOUT

cut up *phr v* [T] (=**cut** sbdy./sthg. ↔ **up**) **1** to cut into little pieces: *a machine for cutting up vegetables* **2** [*usu. pass.*] *infml* to make very sad and upset: *Alice was really cut up when her friend died.* **3** [I] *AmE infml* to misbehave in a way that is wild and difficult to control: *The students started cutting up as soon as the teacher left the room.* —see also CUTUP

cut[2] *n* **1** the result of cutting; an opening or wound: *a cut in the cloth* | *How did you get that cut on your hand?* **2 a** something obtained by cutting, esp. a piece of meat: *cuts of fresh lamb* —see also COLD CUTS **b** *esp. AmE* a CUTTING (3) **3** [**(in)**] a planned reduction in size, amount, etc.: *Congress is strongly opposed to cuts in military spending|public services.* | *tax cuts* **4** [**(of)**] *infml* a share: *to take a 50% cut of the profits* **5** the act of cutting (=dividing) a pile of playing cards in two before starting to play **6** the style in which clothes are made or a person's hair is shaped: *the cut of a suit* | *a fashionable cut* **7** a quick sharp stroke in cricket, tennis, etc. **8** material left out of a written or filmed work: *The author|producer agreed to all the cuts we made.* **9** the process or product of editing (EDIT) a film: *The director insisted on overseeing the final cut.* **10 a cut above** *infml* noticeably better than; of higher quality or rank than: *She thinks she's a cut above other people.* **11 the cut of someone's jib** *BrE infml, old-fash* someone's manner or appearance: *I don't like the cut of his jib.* **12 the unkindest cut (of all)** *quote* a slightly changed phrase from Shakespeare's play *Julius Ceasar*. It concerns the knife wound given to Caesar by Brutus, whom Caesar had thought was his friend. This expression is now used, esp. in newspapers, about almost any type of cut. People also often change it to **the kindest cut (of all)**: *The title of the documentary was "Caesarian Birth – The Unkindest Cut?"* —see also SHORT CUT

cut-and-dried /ˌ· · ˈ·◂/ also **cut-and-dry**– *adj* already settled and unlikely to be changed: *a cut-and-dried argument* | *The result of the election is fairly cut-and-dried.* | *There is no cut-and-dried solution to the problem.*

cut and thrust /ˌ· · ˈ·/ *n* [*the* **(of)**] *esp. BrE* the methods of arguing or behaving that are typical of any activity that tests skill and ability: *the cut and thrust of parliamentary debate*

cut·a·way[1] /ˈkʌtəweɪ/ *adj* [A] (of a plan, drawing, model, etc.) having or showing parts cut away or absent, to allow the inside to be seen: *Here is a cutaway drawing of a power-generating wind turbine.*

cutaway[2] *n* a TAILCOAT

cut·back /ˈkʌtbæk/ *n* a planned decrease; reduction to an earlier rate: *more cutbacks in public expenditure* —see also CUT **back**

cute /kjuːt/ *adj* **1** (esp. of something or someone small) attractive in an amusing or interesting way: *What a cute little baby!* | *He's the cutest boy in our school.* **2** *sometimes derog* (too) clever; SHREWD: *Be careful with him – he's a cute operator.* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

cut glass /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *n* [U] glass (esp. bowls or VASES) with patterns cut on it: *a cut-glass bowl* | *My grandmother collects cut glass.*

cu·ti·cle /ˈkjuːtɪkəl/ *n* an outer covering of hard skin, esp. round the lower edges of the fingernails and toenails — see picture at HAND

cu·tie /ˈkjuːti/ *n AmE infml* a pretty little child, esp. a girl: *Isn't she a cutie!*

cut·lass /ˈkʌtləs/ *n* a short sword with a slightly curved blade, as used formerly in the navy or by a PIRATE —see picture at SWORD

cut·ler /ˈkʌtlər/ *n* a person who makes or sells knives, etc.

cut·le·ry /ˈkʌtləri/ also **flatware, silverware** *AmE*– *n* [U] knives, forks, spoons, and other instruments used for eating: *a set of cutlery*

cut·let /ˈkʌtlɨt/ *n* **1** a small piece of meat for one person, cut with a bone connected to it: *lamb cutlets* **2** a flat CROQUETTE: *vegetarian cutlets*

cut·off /ˈkʌtɒf‖-ɔːf/ *n* **1** a fixed limit or stopping point: *The machine will stop when it reaches its cutoff point.* (=when it has worked enough) **2** an apparatus for stopping or controlling the flow of water, gas, steam, etc. in a pipe —see also CUTOFFS, CUT **off**

cut·offs /ˈkʌtɒfs‖-ɔːfs/ *n* [P] *esp. AmE* shorts made by cutting off the legs of JEANS or trousers —see PAIR (USAGE)

cut·out /ˈkʌtaʊt/ *n* **1** something that interrupts or disconnects an electric CIRCUIT when a current that is too heavy is passing through: *a cutout switch|fuse* **2** a figure cut out of wood or paper: *a cardboard cutout of George Bush* —see also CUT **out**

cut-price /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *adj* [A] **1** also **cut rate**– sold at a price or rate below the standard charge; cheap: *cut-price food|petrol* | *Large industrial users can buy cut-rate electricity.* **2** (of a shop) selling goods at reduced prices: *a cut-price garage*

cut·purse /ˈkʌtpɜːs‖-pɜːrs/ *n old use* a PICKPOCKET

cut·ter /ˈkʌtər/ *n* **1 a** a small fast boat belonging to a larger ship, esp. used for moving supplies or passengers to and from the land **b** a lightly armed government ship used for preventing smuggling (SMUGGLE) **2** (*often in comb.*) an instrument used for cutting: *a pair of wire-cutters* **3** a worker whose job is cutting cloth, glass, stone, metal, etc.

cut·throat[1] /ˈkʌtθrəʊt/ *adj* very fierce, cruel, or unprincipled: *cutthroat competition in business*

cutthroat[2] *n* **1** *esp. old use* a murderer; fierce criminal **2** also **cutthroat ra·zor** /ˌ·· ˈ··/– an old-fashioned type of RAZOR with a very sharp open blade

cut·ting[1] /ˈkʌtɪŋ/ *n* **1** a stem, leaf, etc., that is cut from a plant and put in soil or water to form roots and grow into a new plant: *Do you mind if I take a cutting from this plant?* **2** *BrE*‖**clipping** *AmE*– an article, photograph, etc., that is cut out from a newspaper or magazine: *a cutting from an old newspaper* | *a cuttings file|library for use by researchers* **3** also **cut** *AmE*– something produced by cutting, esp. a passage cut through a hill for a road or railway

cutting[2] *adj* bitter or severe; causing pain: *a cutting east wind* (=strong and cold) | *a cutting remark* (=unpleasant and unkind) —~**ly** *adv*

cutting edge /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [S;U] **1** the quality of sharp directness, esp. in speaking or writing **2** the most advanced position, where important action is taken: *This new model is at the cutting edge of computer technology.*

cutting room /ˈ·· ·/ *n* **1** a room where a film is cut and the final form prepared **2 on the cutting room floor** *infml* useless, worthless, unwanted: *I suppose I'll be on the cutting room floor when they announce the redundancies.*

cut·tle·fish /ˈkʌtlˌfɪʃ/ *n* **cuttlefish** a sea animal like a SQUID with a hard body and ten arms (TENTACLES) that puts out a black inky liquid when attacked

Cut·ty Sark /ˌkʌti ˈsɑːk‖-ˈsɑːrk/ [*the*] a CLIPPER (=fast sailing ship) built in 1869. It carried tea from China to England quickly, racing against similar ships. The Cutty Sark is now preserved at Greenwich, London.

cut·up /ˈkʌtʌp/ *n AmE* a person who entertains others by behaving in an amusing way —see also CUT **up**

Cuz·co /ˈkʊskəʊ/ a city in southern Peru, once the most

important city of the Inca people, with many palaces and temples. Much of ancient Cuzco was destroyed by the Spanish in 1533.

CV, cv /ˌsiː ˈviː/ also **curriculum vitae** *fml, esp. BrE* ‖ **résumé** *esp. AmE*– *n* a short written account of a person's education and past employment, used esp. when they are looking for a new job – see also JOB (CULTURAL NOTE)

C&W /ˌsiː ənd ˈdʌbəljuː/ *n* [U] *abbrev. for* COUNTRY AND WESTERN

cwm /kuːm/ *n* a short valley in Wales

cwt *written abbrev. for:* HUNDREDWEIGHT

cy·an /ˈsaɪən‖ˈsaɪ-æn, -ən/ *adj* deep greenish blue –**cyan** *n* [U]

cy·a·nide /ˈsaɪənaɪd/ *n* [U] a very strong poison: *Their spies are instructed to swallow cyanide capsules if they are caught.*

cy·ber·net·ics /ˌsaɪbəˈnetɪks‖-bər-/ *n* [U] the scientific study of the way in which information is moved about and controlled in machines, the brain, and the nervous system –**-ic** *adj* –**-ically** /kli/ *adv*

cy·borg /ˈsaɪbɔːg‖-bɔːrg/ *n* a man-like creature that is partly human and partly machine

Cyc·la·des /ˈsɪklədiːz/ [*the*+P] a group of Greek islands in the Aegean Sea, including Naxos and Paros

cy·cla·mate /ˈsɪkləmeɪt/ *n* [C;U] any of various artificial sweeteners, used (esp. formerly) by people trying to avoid sugar

cyc·la·men /ˈsɪkləmən/ *n* **cyclamen** a plant of the PRIMROSE family, with white, purple, pink, or red flowers

cy·cle[1] /ˈsaɪkəl/ *n* **1** a number of related events happening in a regularly repeated order: *the cycle of the seasons | the seemingly endless cycle of violence in this troubled part of the world* –see also LIFE CYCLE **2** the period of time needed for this to be completed: *a 50-minute cycle* **3** a group of songs, poems, etc., connected with some central event or person

cycle[2] *n* a bicycle: *My cycle's been stolen.* –see BICYCLE (USAGE)

cycle[3] *v* [I+*adv/prep*] to travel by bicycle: *Do you cycle to work? | He goes cycling every weekend.*

cy·clic /ˈsaɪklɪk/ also **cy·cli·cal** /-klɪkəl/– *adj fml* happening in cycles: *cyclical changes in the level of business activity* –~**ally** /kli/ *adv*

cy·clist /ˈsaɪklɨst/ *n* **1** a person riding a bicycle: *I overtook a group of cyclists. | a cyclist's helmet* **2** a person who is able to ride a bicycle: *I'm not much of a cyclist* (=I am not good at riding a bicycle), *I'm afraid.*

cy·clo-cross /ˈsaɪkləʊ ˌkrɒs‖-ˌkrɔːs/ *n* [U] the sport of racing bicycles over rough ground, usu. including carrying the bicycle up and down steep slopes. Cyclo-cross bicycles are lighter and have much narrower wheels than MOUNTAIN BIKES.

cy·clone /ˈsaɪkləʊn/ *n* a very violent tropical wind or storm moving very rapidly in a circle round a calm central area –compare HURRICANE, TYPHOON; see also ANTICYCLONE; see STORM (USAGE)

cy·clops /ˈsaɪklɒps‖-klɑːps/ *n* a GIANT in ancient Greek stories who only had one eye, in the middle of his forehead

cy·clo·style /ˈsaɪkləstaɪl/ *BrE* ‖ **mimeograph** *AmE*– *v* [T] to make (a document, etc.) cheaply using a special apparatus that makes a STENCIL from which copies are made: *a cyclostyled newsletter*

cy·clo·tron /ˈsaɪklətrɒn‖-trɑːn/ *n* a piece of equipment used by scientists to find out about the nature of matter. It makes small pieces of atoms called PARTICLES travel in a circular path at an increasingly high speed –compare LINEAR ACCELERATOR

cy·der /ˈsaɪdəʳ/ *n BrE* CIDER

cyg·net /ˈsɪgnɨt/ *n* a young SWAN

cyl·in·der /ˈsɪlɨndəʳ/ *n* **1** a hollow or solid shape with a circular base and straight sides **2** an object or container shaped like this, esp. a hollow metal tube: *a cylinder of oxygen* **3** the tube within which a PISTON moves backwards and forwards in an engine or piece of machinery: *an engine with four|six cylinders | brake cylinders* –see picture at ENGINE

cy·lin·dri·cal /sɨˈlɪndrɪkəl/ *adj* in the shape of a cylinder: *Beer cans are cylindrical.* –~**ly** /kli/ *adv*

cym·bal /ˈsɪmbəl/ *n* either of a pair of round thin metal plates that are struck together to make a loud ringing noise, used in music: *a clash of cymbals* –see picture at PERCUSSION –~**ist** *n*

Cym·ru /ˈkʌmri/ the Welsh name for Wales

cyn·ic /ˈsɪnɪk/ *n sometimes derog* someone who thinks that people tend to act only in their own interests, and who always has a low opinion (sometimes unfairly) of people's reasons for doing things: *"I'm sure she's only pretending to be ill, to get people's sympathy." "Honestly, Sue, you're such a cynic!"* –~**ism** /ˈsɪnɨsɪzəm/ *n* [U]: *appalled by the cynicism of the government's proposals*

cyn·i·cal /ˈsɪnɪkəl/ *adj sometimes derog* like or typical of a cynic: *cynical remarks|behaviour | She was very cynical about the peace conference and said the president was only there to boost his popularity.* –~**ly** /kli/ *adv*

cy·no·sure /ˈsaɪnəʃʊəʳ, ˈsɪn-‖ˈsaɪnəʃʊəʳ/ *n fml or pomp* a person or thing that is a centre of attention or interest

cy·pher /ˈsaɪfəʳ/ *n, v* CIPHER

cy·press /ˈsaɪprɨs/ *n* a tree with dark green leaves and hard wood. It does not lose its leaves in winter.

Cy·prus /ˈsaɪprəs/ an island in the E Mediterranean, S of Turkey; capital Nicosia; population 694,000 (1989) – **Cypriot** /ˈsɪpriət/ *adj, n*

Cy·ril·lic /sɨˈrɪlɪk/ *adj, n* [U] (written in or being) the alphabet used for Russian, Bulgarian, various other Slavonic languages, Mongolian, etc.

cyst /sɪst/ *n* an enclosed hollow growth in or on the body, containing liquid matter: *She had an operation to remove a cyst. | a benign|malignant cyst*

cys·tic fi·bro·sis /ˌsɪstɪk faɪˈbrəʊsɨs/ *n* [U] a long-lasting serious disease that some people are born with which damages the GLANDS of the body. It sometimes results in early death.

cyst·i·tis /sɪˈstaɪtɨs/ *n* [U] a disease of the BLADDER, esp. of women, in which water must be passed frequently from the body, often with pain and difficulty

cy·tol·o·gy /saɪˈtɒlədʒi‖-ˈtɑː-/ *n* [U] the scientific study of cells –**-gist** *n*

Cy Young A·ward /ˌsaɪ ˈjʌŋ əˌwɔːd ‖ -əwɔːrd/ [*the*] a prize given every year to the most successful PITCHER (=the person who throws the ball) in the big LEAGUES of American BASEBALL

czar /zɑːʳ/ *n* a TSAR

cza·ri·na /zɑːˈriːnə/ *n* a TSARINA

Czech /tʃek/ also **Czech·o·slo·vak** /ˌtʃekəˈsləʊvæk◂/, **Czech·o·slo·vak·i·an** /ˌtʃekəsləʊˈvækiən, -ˈvɑː/– *adj, n* (a person) who is, or whose parents are, from Czechoslovakia

Czech·o·slo·vak·i·a /ˌtʃekəsləʊˈvækiə, -ˈvɑː-/ a country in central Europe, bordering on Austria, Germany, Hungary, Poland, and the former USSR; capital Prague; population 15,639,000 (1989). From after the Second World War until 1989, Czechoslovakia was a Communist state under the influence of the USSR. It now consists of two independent republics: the Czech Republic; capital Prague; population 10,400,000 (1990) and Slovakia; capital Bratislava; population 5,300,000 (1990).

D

D, d /diː/ **D's, d's** *or* **Ds, ds** **1** the fourth letter of the English alphabet **2** the ROMAN NUMERAL (number) for 500

d *written abbrev. for:* died: *d 1937*

D **1** a note in Western music; the musical KEY[1] (4) based on this note **2** a mark given to a student's work, showing that it is of a very low standard —see also GRADE[1] (3); see also D AND C, D-DAY, D-NOTICE

-'d *short for:* **1** would: *I asked if she'd go.* (=if she would go) **2** had: *I asked if she'd gone.* (=if she had gone) **3** *infml* (in questions after **where, what, when,** etc.) did: *Where'd he go?* (=Where did he go?) —compare 's[1] (3)

d' *short for: (infml)* do: *D'you like it?*

DA /ˌdiː ˈeɪ/ *n* DISTRICT ATTORNEY

dab[1] /dæb/ *n* **1** a slight or light touch: *He made a few dabs at the fence with the paintbrush but it didn't really have much effect.* **2** *infml* a small quantity of a soft or liquid substance: *a dab of paint|of butter* **3** a DAB HAND —see also DABS

dab[2] *v* **-bb-** **1** [I **(at)**;T] to touch lightly or gently, usu. several times: *She dabbed (at) the wound with a wet cloth.* **2** [T **(on)**] to cover with light quick strokes and usu. carelessly and incompletely: *She dabbed some cream on her face.*

dab·ble /ˈdæbəl/ *v* **1** [I **(at, in)**] *sometimes derog* to work at or study something without serious intentions: *to dabble in politics | I've dabbled in sculpture a bit.* **2** [T **(in)**] to move (one's hands, feet, etc.) playfully about in water: *She dabbled her toes in the river.* **—-bler** *n*

dab hand /ˌ· ˈ·/ also **dab**— *n* [**(at)**] *BrE infml* a person who is very good at something: *She's a dab hand at sailing.*

dabs /dæbz/ *n* [P] *BrE sl for* FINGERPRINTS

Dac·ca /ˈdækə/ DHAKA

dach·a /ˈdætʃə‖ˈdɑː-/ *n* a Russian country house or COTTAGE

Dach·au /ˈdækaʊ, ˈdæx-‖ˈdɑː-/ a CONCENTRATION CAMP near the town of Dachau in S Germany in which many Jews and other prisoners were killed during the Second World War: *His whole family was sent to Dachau.*

dachs·hund /ˈdækshʊnd, -sənd/ also **sausage dog** *BrE infml*— *n* a small dog with short legs and a long body —see picture at DOG

Dac·ron /ˈdækrɒn‖ˈdeɪkrɑːn/ *n tdmk* a kind of cloth made from man-made materials. In the US, clothes made from this material are considered unfashionable by many young people: *a Dacron polyester sportshirt*

dac·tyl /ˈdæktɪl‖-tl/ *n tech* a measure of poetry consisting of one strong (or long) beat followed by two weak (or short) beats, as in "carefully" —**~ic** /dækˈtɪlɪk/ *adj, n*

dad /dæd/ *n infml* father: *What are you doing, Dad? | I'll have to ask my mum and dad.* —see FATHER (USAGE)

Da·da·is·m /ˈdɑːdɑː-ɪzəm/ also **Da·da** /ˈdɑːdɑː/— *n* [U] an early 20th-century movement in art and literature which was a violent reaction against previous ideas about art and writing, and was particularly concerned with producing unexpected, strange images which give a feeling of unreality. Dadaism was one of the main influences upon Surrealism. —**~ist, ~istic** *adj*

Daddies sauce /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n tdmk* a type of SAUCE made by HP Foods Limited for adding FLAVOUR to food just before it is eaten

►CULTURAL NOTE Daddies Sauce is usu. eaten by people at home; it is not usu. offered in restaurants or on grand occasions.◄

dad·dy /ˈdædi/ *n* (used esp. by or to young children) father: *Daddy's home! | That's my daddy.* —compare MUMMY[1]; see also SUGAR DADDY; see FATHER (USAGE)

daddy long·legs /ˌdædi ˈlɒŋlegz‖-ˈlɔːŋ-/ *n* **daddy longlegs** **1** also **crane fly** *fml*— *BrE* a flying insect with long legs **2** *AmE* an insect with long legs that is similar to a SPIDER

Daddy War·bucks /ˌdædi ˈwɔːbʌks ‖ -ˈwɔːr-/ an American COMIC STRIP character. He is a very rich businessman and takes care of a young girl, Little Orphan Annie.

da·do /ˈdeɪdəʊ/ *n* **-does** the lower part of a wall in a room that is decorated differently, e.g. with different-coloured paint, from the upper part

Dad's Ar·my /ˌ· ˈ··/ a British television comedy programme about a group of old soldiers who were part of the Home Guard, defending a small southern English town during the Second World War —see also HOME GUARD

Dae·da·lus /ˈdiːdəl-əs‖ˈded-/ in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, a great inventor who made the Labyrinth and was the father of Icarus

dae·mon /ˈdiːmən/ *n lit* **1** (in ancient Greek stories) a being like a spirit, halfway between gods and humans **2** a spirit that fills a person with the power to think, do, or make new things —compare DEMON — **~ic** /dɪˈmɒnɪk‖-ˈmɑː-/ *adj* : *a daemonic laugh* — **~ically** /kli/ *adv*

daf·fo·dil /ˈdæfədɪl/ also **daff** /dæf/ *infml*— *n* a very common bell-shaped pale yellow flower of early spring —see picture at FLOWER

►CULTURAL NOTE 1 The daffodil is one of the plants which has an association with Wales. Some Welsh people wear a daffodil pinned to their coat on Saint David's Day (1st March). 2 There is a very well-known poem by William Wordsworth which British people often quote when talking about daffodils. It begins:

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils.◄

Daf·fy Duck /ˌdæfi ˈdʌk/ a CARTOON character who does silly things and who mispronounces his 's' sounds when he speaks

daft /dɑːft‖dæft/ *adj infml, esp. BrE* silly; foolish: *a daft idea | What a daft thing to say! | Don't be so daft!* — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

dag·ger /ˈdægəʳ/ *n* **1** a short pointed knife used as a weapon, esp. formerly: *He sheathed his dagger again.* **2** also **obelisk**— a sign (†) used in printing to draw the reader's attention to something **3 at daggers drawn (with someone)** in a state of open dislike and readiness to fight (with someone) **4 Is this a dagger which I see before me?** *quote* a line from Shakespeare's play *Macbeth*, said by Macbeth when he is preparing to murder the king. He imagines a dagger with blood on it in the air in front of him. **5 look daggers at** to look angrily at; GLARE at —see also CLOAK-AND-DAGGER

da·go /ˈdeɪgəʊ/ *n* **-gos** *or* **-goes** *derog taboo* a person, esp. a man, from Spain, Portugal, or Italy

da·guer·reo·type /dəˈgerəʊtaɪp‖-rə-/ *n* [C;U] a kind of early photograph

Dag·wood /ˈdægwʊd/ (in the US) a COMIC STRIP character who is married to the character **Blondie**. He is known for being lazy.

Dagwood sand·wich /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n AmE* a very large SANDWICH with many different kinds of meat and cheese in it

Dahl /dɑːl/, **Ro·ald** /ˈrəʊəld/ (1916–90) a popular British writer, esp. of children's books which often combine frightening things with humour —see also CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

dah·li·a /ˈdeɪliə‖ˈdæliə/ *n* a big brightly coloured garden flower with a lot of pointed PETALS

Dail /dɔɪl, daɪl/ also **Dail Ei·reann** /ˌdɔɪl ˈeərən, ˌdaɪl-‖-ˈeɪrən/ *fml*— [*the*] the lower house of the Irish parliament

dai·lies /ˈdeɪliz/ *n* [P] **1** DAILY PAPERS **2** *AmE for* RUSHES

dai·ly[1] /ˈdeɪli/ *adj, adv* every day (or every working day): *my daily journey to work | She goes there twice daily. | a daily newspaper | She gets paid daily. | She is paid on a daily basis.*

daily[2] *n* **1** [*usu. pl.*] a DAILY PAPER **2** also **daily help** /ˌ·· ˈ·/— *infml, esp. BrE* someone, esp. a woman, who comes to clean a house daily but does not live there

daily bread /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] *infml* **1** food, money, and other things necessary for life (esp. in the phrase **earn one's daily bread**) **2 Give us this day our daily bread** *quote* a phrase from the Lord's Prayer, asking God to provide food each day

daily doub·le /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n AmE* a single BET on the results of two horse or dog races in a row

Daily Ex·press /ˌ·· ·ˈ·/ also **Express**– [*the*] a popular national daily newspaper in Britain. It is a TABLOID –see also extra information on page 896

Daily Mail /ˌ·· ˈ·/ also **Mail**– [*the*] a popular national daily newspaper in Britain. It is a TABLOID –see also extra information on page 896

Daily Mir·ror /ˌ·· ˈ··/ also **Mirror**– [*the*] a popular national daily newspaper in Britain. It is a TABLOID –see also extra information on page 896

daily pa·per /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* also **daily** *infml* –a newspaper printed and sold every day except Sunday –see also SUNDAY PAPER; see also extra information on page 896

Daily Tel·e·graph /ˌ·· ˈ···/ also **Telegraph**– [*the*] a national daily newspaper in Britain. It is a QUALITY PAPER –see also extra information on page 896

Daim·ler /ˈdeɪmləʳ/ *tdmk* a company which makes cars, esp. a famous large, comfortable, and expensive car called a Daimler. British people think of Daimlers as being driven typically by very rich, older, upper-class people.

dain·ty[1] /ˈdeɪnti/ *adj* **1** small, pretty, and delicate: *a dainty child|dress|movement* **2** not easy to please, esp. about food; FASTIDIOUS: *a dainty eater* –**-tily** *adv* –**-tiness** *n* [U]

dainty[2] *n* an especially nice small piece of food, esp. a little cake

dai·qui·ri /ˈdaɪkɪ̯ri, ˈdæk-/ *n* a sweet alcoholic drink made of RUM and esp. LEMON or LIME juice

dair·y /ˈdeəri/ *n* **1** a place on a farm where milk is kept and butter and cheese are made **2** a company which makes or sells mostly milk and dairy products: *Altadena Dairies makes most of the yogurt sold there.*

dairy cat·tle /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [P] cattle kept for milk rather than for meat

dairy farm /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a farm that produces milk, and sometimes butter and cheese – ~**er** *n*

dair·y·maid /ˈdeərimeɪd/ also **milkmaid**– *n old use* a woman who works in a DAIRY (1)

dair·y·man /ˈdeərimən‖-mən, -mæn/ *n* **-men** /mən/ a man who works in a DAIRY (1) or runs a DAIRY FARM

dairy prod·uce /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [U] milk and things made from milk, such as butter and cheese. Many people in Britain and the US believe that too much dairy produce makes people fat and is bad for them.

dairy prod·ucts /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [P] DAIRY PRODUCE

Dairy Queen /ˈ·· ˌ·/ also **DQ**– *n tdmk* an American FAST-FOOD restaurant which sells ice cream and other foods. Dairy Queen is a popular place for TEENAGERS to go.

da·is /ˈdeɪɪ̯s, deɪs/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] a raised part of the floor at one end of a hall or meeting room, for speakers or other important people

dai·sy /ˈdeɪzi/ *n* **1** a very common flower, which is white around a yellow centre and grows among grass. People think of daisies as simple and ordinary, but attractive and fresh: *The lawn was covered in daisies.* –see picture at FLOWER **2 push up the daisies** *BrE humor* to be dead and buried –see DEAD[1]

daisy chain /ˈ·· ·/ *n BrE* a string of daisies joined together using their STALKS to make a circle to wear round the neck or wrist, usu. made by children

dai·sy wheel print·er /ˈ·· · ˌ··/ *n* a kind of PRINTER (3) with a part called a **daisy wheel** that moves to press letters onto the paper and consists of a piece of metal shaped like a large daisy, having a different letter of the alphabet at the end of each "PETAL". A daisy wheel printer produces good quality print like the print from a TYPEWRITER, and some typewriters also have a daisy wheel –see also DOT MATRIX PRINTER, GOLF BALL (2), and LASER PRINTER

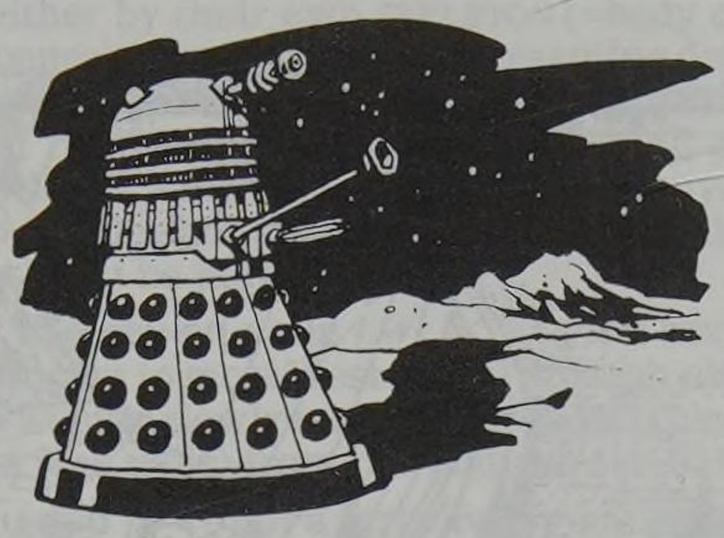
Dak·ar /ˈdækɑːʳ ‖ dəkɑːr/ [*the*] an important seaport and economic centre in Senegal, W Africa

Da·ko·tas /dəˈkəʊtəz/ [*the*+P] the US states of North Dakota and South Dakota

Dal·ai La·ma /ˌdælaɪ ˈlɑːmə‖ˌdɑː-/ also **Grand Lama** /ˌ· ˈ··/– [*the*] the head of the Tibetan Buddhist religion. He has lived outside Tibet since the Chinese took control of it in 1950 and leads the movement for an independent Tibet.

dale /deɪl/ *n N EngE or poet* a valley –see also DALES

dalek



da·lek /ˈdɑːlek/ *n* (*often cap.*) a frightening creature with a metal body, from a British children's television SERIES called *Dr Who*. Daleks talk in a strange voice that does not rise or fall, like the voice of a a machine. When they are going to kill someone, they say "Exterminate!" –see also DR WHO

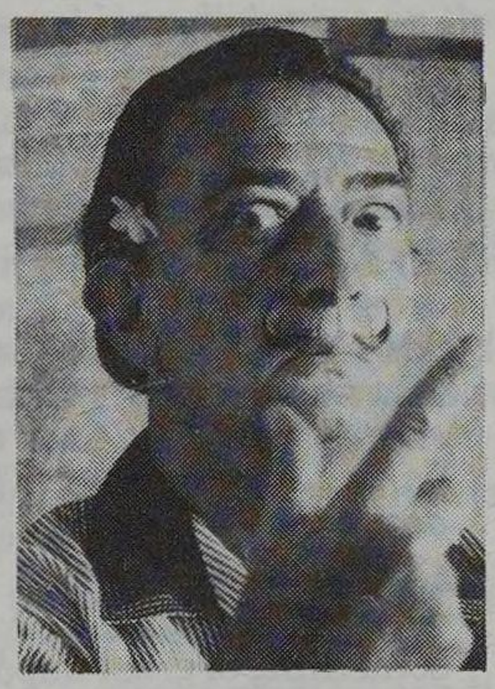
Dales /deɪlz/ also **Yorkshire Dales** *n* [*the*+P] an area of hills and valleys in the N of England, popular with tourists

Daley, Arthur see ARTHUR DALEY

Dal·glish /dælˈgliːʃ/, **Ken·ny** /ˈkeni/ (1951–) a skilful Scottish footballer and manager who played for Glasgow Celtic and Liverpool, which he also managed

Da·li /ˈdɑːli/, **Sal·va·dor** /ˈsælvədɔːʳ/ (1904–89) a Spanish Surrealist painter known for his strange life and habits. He had a long thin MOUSTACHE.

Salvador Dali



Dal·las /ˈdæləs/ **1** a city in Texas in the US. It is a centre for business and industry and is esp. famous for its rich oil businesses. It is also remembered as the place where John F Kennedy was shot in 1963. –see colour map on page 1374–5 **2** an American television SERIES which became very popular in many parts of the world. *Dallas* is about a wealthy family called the Ewings who own an oil company and live on a very big RANCH called Southfork. The people in *Dallas* have exciting lifestyles and are only interested in power, money, and sex. –see also JR

Dallas Cow·boys /ˌ·· ˈ··/, **The** a leading AMERICAN FOOTBALL team from Dallas, Texas

dal·li·ance /ˈdæliəns/ *n* [U] *old-fash* the act of dallying with someone; FLIRTATION

dal·ly /ˈdæli/ *v* [I (ABOUT, **over**)] to be slow or waste time: *Don't dally about or we'll be late.* | *They dallied over their food for a while.*

dally with sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** to consider (an idea), but not very seriously; TOY **with:** *He often dallies with the idea of setting himself up in business.* **2** *old-fash* to seem to want to start a love relationship with (someone), but without serious intentions

Dal·ma·tia /dælˈmeɪʃə/ an area of Croatia on the E coast on the Adriatic Sea

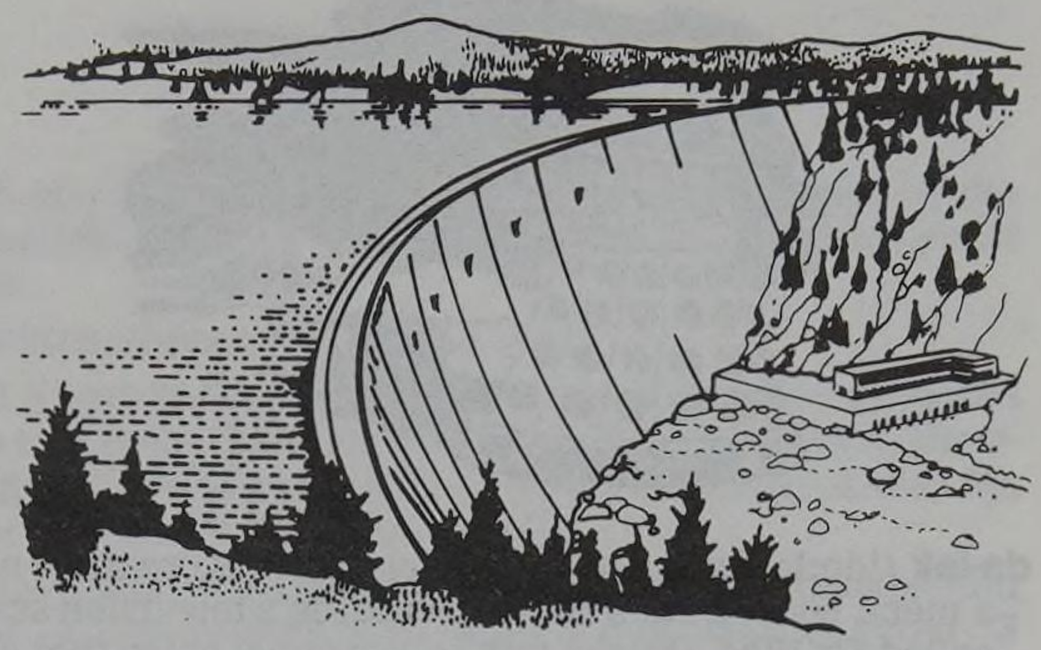
Dal·ma·tian /dælˈmeɪʃən/ *n* (*usu. cap.*) a type of large short-haired dog that is white with black spots. There is a famous children's book called *The Hundred and One Dalmatians.* –see picture at DOG

dam[1] /dæm/ *n* a wall or bank built across a river to keep back water, esp. to make a RESERVOIR: *the Aswan Dam in Egypt* | *The village was swept away when the dam burst.* | *The beavers had built a new dam across the stream.* –compare DIKE[1] (1)

dam[2] *v* **-mm-** [T (UP)] to keep back by means of a dam: *to dam (up) the water|the river*

dam sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] to control (a feeling, esp. of anger or annoyance) in an unhealthy way; SUPPRESS: *to dam up one's resentment*

dam[3] *n* the mother of a four-legged animal, esp. a horse –compare SIRE[1] (1)



dam·age[1] /ˈdæmɪdʒ/ *n* **1** [U (**to**)] the process of spoiling the condition or quality of something and the harm or loss that results: *The flood caused serious damage to the crops.* | *This will do a lot of damage to her political reputation.* | *He suffered* **brain damage** *in the car accident.* **2** [*the*] *infml* the price, esp. of something done for you: *What's the damage?*

damage[2] *v* [T] to cause damage to: *to damage someone's reputation* | *The building was severely damaged by the explosion.* | *Smoking can damage your health.* | *The incident had a damaging effect on East-West relations.*

damage lim·i·ta·tion ex·er·cise /ˌ·· ··ˈ·· ˌ···/ *n* an attempt to limit the damage to something, esp. one's REPUTATION or CREDIBILITY, as much as possible: *Since news of its involvement in the scandal was leaked, the Government has been engaged in a damage limitation exercise.*

dam·ag·es /ˈdæmɪdʒɨz/ *n* [P] *law* money that a person is ordered by a court to pay to another person for causing damage or for unfairly writing bad things about them so that other people will have a low opinion of them: *She sued him for libel, and the court ordered him to pay her damages of £1500.* | *The court awarded her £1500 in damages.*

Da·mas·cus /dəˈmæskəs/ **1** the capital of Syria **2 road to Damascus** the way one suddenly comes to believe something of great importance in one's life (from a story in the Bible in which St Paul was travelling to Damascus to stop Christianity there when a light blinded him, and he heard the voice of God and became a Christian): *The experience of meeting people who had no homes and no food, but were still sure of their beliefs, was her road to Damascus.*

dam·ask[1] /ˈdæməsk/ *n* [U] a kind of cloth with a pattern woven into it, used in the past by very rich people for clothes and curtains. Now it is used for covering furniture, and for white tablecloths for formal occasions.

damask[2] *adj* **1** made of damask: *a damask tablecloth* **2** *poet* pink: *her damask cheek*

Dam Bust·ers /ˈ· ˌ··/, **The** a British second world war film about Dr Barnes Wallis's BOUNCING BOMB (=a bomb which springs up again after hitting a surface) which destroyed DAMS (=a wall to keep back water) on the Ruhr river in Germany. The music from the film is particularly remembered.

dame /deɪm/ *n* **1** *AmE old-fash sl* (esp. said by men) a woman. There is a famous song from the musical *South Pacific* called *There is nothing like a dame.* **2** (*sometimes cap.*) in Britain, the part of an ugly old woman in a PANTOMIME, acted by a man

Dame *n* (the title of) a woman who has been given a DBE (British rank of honour): *Dame Ellen Terry was a famous actress.* | *When was she made a Dame?* —compare KNIGHT

Dame Ed·na /deɪm ˈednə/ also **Dame Edna Ev·er·age** /-ˌednə ˈevərɪdʒ/ an amusing female character who wears wildly unusual clothes and glasses and who thinks she is amusing, attractive, and intelligent. She was invented and played by the Australian COMEDIAN Barry Humphries. —see also Barry HUMPHRIES and colour picture on page 553

dam·mit /ˈdæmɨt/ *interj* **1** (an expression of annoyance): *Will you hurry up, dammit!* **2 as near as dammit** almost, though possibly a few less: *"How many were there?" "A hundred." "Really?" "Well, as near as dammit."*

damn[1] /dæm/ *adj, adv* [A] *sl* **1** also **damned, goddamn**– (used for giving force to an expression, good or bad): *a damn fool* | *You were damn lucky the police didn't catch you!* | *Don't lie to me – you knew damn well what was happening.* —see also DARN[2] **2 damn all** *BrE* nothing: *He's the meanest person I know – you'll get damn all out of him.*

damn[2] also **damnation**– *interj sl* (an expression of annoyance or disappointment): *Damn! I've forgotten the key.* —see also DARN[2], DASH[1] (4)

damn[3] *n infml* [S *usu. in negatives*] even the smallest amount: *I don't* **care/give a damn** *what he does.* | *His promise isn't* **worth a damn.**

damn[4] *v* [T] **1** (esp. of God) to send to punishment without end after death —see also DAMNED[1] (1), [2] **2** (often used in CURSES[1] (2)): *Damn it!* | *Damn you!* —compare BLESS[1] (3) **3** to declare to be bad or worthless: *The play was damned by all the critics.* —see also DAMNED[1] (4) **4** to cause to fail completely; ruin: *He damned himself with one stupid remark.* **5 damn someone/something with faint praise** to praise someone or something only slightly, in a way that suggests that one really disapproves

dam·na·ble /ˈdæmnəbəl/ *adj old-fash* very bad; APPALLING: *This damnable weather!* —**-bly** *adv infml*

dam·na·tion[1] /dæmˈneɪʃən/ *n* [U] **1** the act of damning or state of being damned: *condemned to eternal damnation in Hell* **2 in damnation** *old-fash sl* (used for giving strength to an expression of anger): *What in damnation do you mean by that?*

damnation[2] *interj sl* (an expression of annoyance or disappointment): *Oh no! I've forgotten the key. Hell and damnation!*

damned[1] /dæmd/ *adj* **1** sent by God to punishment without end after death: *They will be eternally damned.* **2** *infml* (used for giving force to an expression, good or bad; used esp. by UPPER-CLASS people): *It's a damned nuisance.* | *damned bad luck* **3 Well, I'm damned/I'll be damned!** *infml* (a strong way of saying) I'm very surprised! **4 damned if she does and damned if she doesn't** *infml* people will find fault with her whatever course of action she chooses

damned[2] *n* [*the*+P] in the Christian and Muslim religions, people who have behaved so immorally that after death they are sent to Hell to be punished for ever

damned·est[1] /ˈdæmdɨst/ *n* **do one's damnedest** *infml* to do everything possible: *She's doing her damnedest to pass the exam.*

damnedest[2] *adj* [*the*+A] *infml, esp. AmE* the most unusual, surprising, etc.: *Isn't that the damnedest thing you've ever heard?*

damn·ing /ˈdæmɪŋ/ *adj* likely to lead to ruin or failure: *We found some* **damning evidence** *that implicated both of them.*

Damocles see SWORD OF DAMOCLES

damp[1] /dæmp/ *adj* rather wet, often in an unpleasant way: *damp grass* | *damp clothes* | *The tenants complained to their landlord about the damp walls in the bedroom.* | *an unhealthy damp climate* | *Use a damp cloth to clean the table.* —**~ish** *adj* —**~ly** *adv*

▷ USAGE Compare **damp, humid,** and **moist. Damp** is often used in a bad sense: *I can't wear these socks; they're* **damp. Moist** is used especially of food and parts of the body, and often has a good sense (=not too dry): *a rich,* **moist** *cake* | **moist** *eyes/lips.* **Humid** is a more scientific word usually used of climate or weather: *It was hot and* **humid** *in the jungle.*◁

damp[2] also **damp·ness** /ˈdæmpnɨs/– *n* [U] slight wetness: *There's a patch of damp on my bedroom wall.* —see also RISING DAMP

damp[3] *v* [T] **1** to wet slightly; dampen: *Damp the dress before you iron it.* **2** to make (a stringed musical instrument) sound less loudly, e.g. by using a DAMPER (3)

damp sthg. ↔ **down** also **dampen** sthg. ↔ **down**– *phr v* [T] **1** to make (a fire) burn more slowly, often by covering it with ash **2** to control and reduce;

RESTRAIN (2): *They were too keen at first and we had to damp down their enthusiasm.*

damp course /ˈ· ·/ also **damp-proof course** /ˈ· · ˌ·/– *n BrE* a thickness of material in a wall to prevent RISING DAMP (=wetness coming up through the bricks)

damp·en /ˈdæmpən/ *v* [T] **1** to make damp: *The rain hardly dampened the ground.* **2** to reduce the strength of (feelings, esp. of happiness or keenness): *It was an unpleasant event and it dampened our spirits for a while.*

damp·er /ˈdæmpəʳ/ *n* **1** an influence that makes people feel sad or discouraged: *The accident* **put a damper on** *our party.* **2** a metal plate, door, etc., that can be moved to control the amount of air that reaches a burning fire and make it burn more or less brightly **3** an apparatus that stops the shaking of a piano string

damp squib /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n BrE infml* something which is intended to be exciting, effective, etc., but which fails and disappoints

dam·sel /ˈdæmzəl/ *n* **1** *lit* a young unmarried woman, esp. one of noble birth **2 damsel in distress** *humor* a woman who is in a difficult situation from which a man can save her (from old stories in which a damsel is often held as a prisoner and is saved by a young KNIGHT, humorously known as a **knight in shining armour**): *"Thank you very much." "Not at all, madam. Always happy to help a damsel in distress."* –see picture at KNIGHT

dam·son /ˈdæmzən/ *n* (the small acid purple fruit of) a kind of PLUM tree: *damson jam*

dan /dæn/ *n* a level of skill in a MARTIAL ART, higher than a BLACK BELT: *He's a first dan in judo.* –compare BLACK BELT

dance[1] /dɑːns‖dæns/ *v* **1** [I] to move the feet and body in a way that matches the speed or movements of music: *She loves to dance.* | *They danced all night to the music of the band.* | *Would you like to dance with me?*

►CULTURAL NOTE Many young people in Britain and the US go to DISCOs and NIGHT CLUBS to dance, esp. on Saturday nights. They usu. dance in pairs of one man and one woman. For many young people this is a good way to meet people of the opposite sex. Some DANCEs (3) are held at which older people can dance older dances. Companies and clubs may hold a dance on a special occasion such as Christmas.◄

2 [T] to perform (a type of dance): *We danced the waltz.* **3** [T+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] to cause to dance: *She danced the baby round the room.* **4** [I] to move quickly up and down, or about: *The branches of the trees danced in the breeze.* | *The figures on the computer screen danced up and down in front of my eyes.* (=I couldn't read them properly) **5 dance attendance on/upon someone** *BrE* to pay someone a lot of attention, get everything they might need, etc., showing that one is very keen to please them **6 dance to someone's tune** to do what someone wants without asking questions, in a way that shows complete obedience –**dancer** *n* : *Is he a good dancer?* | *She's a dancer on the stage.* | *folk dancers*

dance[2] *n* **1** [C] an act of dancing: *Let's have one more dance before we go home.* | *She did a little dance of excitement.* | *to play dance music* **2** [C] (the name of) a particular set of movements performed to music: *The waltz is a beautiful dance.* | *a traditional tribal dance* **3** [C] a social meeting or party for dancing, esp. older-style dancing rather than DISCO dancing: *They're giving/holding a dance on New Year's Eve.* **4** [C] a piece of music for dancing: *The band played a slow dance.* **5** [(*the*) U] (*sometimes cap.*) the art of dancing, esp. BALLET dancing –see also COUNTRY DANCE, SONG AND DANCE, SQUARE DANCE, **lead someone a dance** (LEAD[1] (10))

dance-band /ˈ· ·/ *n* a group of musicians (a band) who play music for dancing to –**dance-band** *adj* : *a dance-band singer*

dance floor /ˈ· ·/ *n* **1** a special floor for dancing on **2 on the dance floor** at dancing: *She's wonderful on the dance floor.*

dance hall /ˈ· ·/ *n* a large public room where people pay to go and dance. Dance halls are rather old-fashioned now and are connected in people's minds with dancing before the 1960s. Many older-style dances, where people WALTZ, etc., are now held in hotels. Most young people who like dancing go to DISCOs or NIGHT CLUBS.

Dance of Death /ˌ· · ˈ·/ also **danse macabre** [*the*] an imagined dance danced by people as they are led to their death, either by their own SKELETON (=body consisting only of bones) or by a skeleton representing death. In the Middle Ages painters, writers, and musicians used the Dance of Death to express the idea that all people are equal in death, and that death can come to anyone at any time, so people should behave morally in order always to be ready to be judged by God.

dance of the sev·en veils /ˌ· · · ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* a sexy Eastern dance (known to most Westerners through old films) in which a woman slowly removes seven long pieces of thin material (the veils) from her body as she dances

dance stu·di·o /ˈ· ˌ···/ *n* a large room usu. with mirrors on the walls and bars to hold onto where people learn or practise dancing

danc·ing girl /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* a professional woman dancer in a place of popular entertainment, or in the Middle East, esp. in the past. People sometimes use the expression **Bring on the dancing girls**, meaning "Let's add some (more) excitement to this occasion!"

Dan Dare /ˌ· ˈ·/ the main character in a number of adventure stories in the British boys' COMIC[2] (1) *Eagle*. He is the keen young captain of a space ship, and his main enemy is the Mekon: *The man destined to be Britain's first astronaut hasn't got the Dan Dare look.*

D and C /ˌdiː ənd ˈsiː/ *n* a hospital operation to clean the inside of a woman's WOMB

dan·de·li·on /ˈdændˌlaɪən/ *n* a common small wild bright-yellow flower whose seeds travel long distances on the wind –see picture at FLOWER

dandelion clock /ˈ···· ˌ·/ *n BrE* a soft round mass of white seeds of the dandelion on a STALK. Children in Britain often blow the seeds into the air and pretend that they can tell what time it is by the number of times they need to blow to remove them all.

dan·der /ˈdændəʳ/ *n* **get one's/someone's dander up** *old-fash infml* to make oneself/someone angry: *Her stubborn attitude really got my dander up.*

dan·di·fied /ˈdændɪfaɪd/ *adj often derog* dressed like a dandy: *a dandified person/appearance*

dan·dle /ˈdændl/ *v* [T] to move (a baby or small child) up and down in one's arms or on one's knee in play

dan·druff /ˈdændrəf, -drʌf/ *n* [U] a common medical condition in which bits of dead skin form on the head and can be seen in the hair and on one's clothes

dan·dy[1] /ˈdændi/ *n becoming rare* a man who spends a lot of time and money on his clothing and personal appearance

dandy[2] *adj old-fash infml, esp. AmE* very good: *a dandy idea*

Dandy, The a popular British children's COMIC[2] (1)

Dane /deɪn/ *n* **1** a person who is from or whose parents are from Denmark **2** a VIKING –see also DANISH, GREAT DANE

dan·ger /ˈdeɪndʒəʳ/ *n* **1** [U (**of, to**)] the possibility of harm or loss: *The red flag means "Danger!"* | *a danger signal* | *a place where children can play without danger* | *The patient's life is* **in danger.** | *The operation was a success and she is now* **out of danger.** | *He is in (great/real) danger of losing his job.* | *Climbing mountains is* **fraught with** (=full of) **danger.** **2** [C (**of, to**)] a case or cause of danger: *the dangers of smoking* | *This narrow bridge is a danger to traffic.* | *Violent criminals like that are a danger to society.*

danger list /ˈ·· ·/ *n* **1 on the danger list** so ill that death is possible **2 off the danger list** no longer so ill that death is possible

danger mon·ey /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [U] additional pay for dangerous work

dan·ger·ous /ˈdeɪndʒərəs/ *adj* able to or likely to cause danger: *a dangerous drug/animal/criminal* | *It's dangerous to go too near the edge of the cliff.* | *The situation is potentially very dangerous.* –~**ly** *adv* : *He was driving dangerously.* | *She is dangerously ill.*

dan·gle /ˈdæŋgəl/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) hang or swing loosely: *keys dangling from a chain* | *He sat on the edge of the table dangling his legs.* **2** [T+*obj*+*prep*] to offer as

an attraction: *They might do the job if you dangle a bonus in front of them.*

Dan·iel /ˈdænjəl/ according to the Bible, a Jew who lived before the time of Christ. He was taken prisoner by Nebuchadnezzar and put into a lions' DEN, but the lions did not kill him because God protected him. He told the people who had taken him prisoner about bad things which God would do to them in the future, including the fall of their city, Babylon. His story is told in one of the books of the Bible called "Daniel". –see also **in the lion's den** (LION)

Dan·iels /ˈdænjəlz/, **Paul** (1938–) an English entertainer who makes people laugh and performs magic tricks on television: *The Paul Daniels Magic Show*

Da·nish[1] /ˈdeɪnɪʃ/ *adj* of Denmark, its people, or their language: *I'm Danish.* | *the Danish economy*

Danish[2] *n* **1** [U] the language of Denmark **2** [S] a DANISH PASTRY

Danish blue /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] a kind of cheese with blue marks in it made in Denmark

Danish pas·try /ˌ·· ˈ··/ also **Danish** ‖ also **sweet roll** *AmE– n* a sweet cake made of rich light pastry

dank /dæŋk/ *adj* unpleasantly wet and usu. cold: *an old house with a dark, dank cellar* | *The prison was cold and dank.* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

Dank·worth /ˈdæŋkwəθ‖-wərθ/, **John** (1927–) a British writer of JAZZ music, leader of a group of musicians, and SAXOPHONE player

danse ma·ca·bre /ˌdɑːns məˈkɑːbrə, -bəʳ/ *n Fr for* DANCE OF DEATH

Dan·te /ˈdænti, -teɪ‖ˈdɑːnteɪ/ (1265–1321) an Italian poet who is known esp. for *The Divine Comedy*, a long poem about a journey through HELL, PURGATORY, and HEAVEN

Dante's In·fer·no /ˌ·· ·ˈ··/ the first part of Dante's *The Divine Comedy*, about Hell. This phrase is sometimes used to describe a terrible scene of destruction, darkness, fire, etc.: *South of Kuwait City is Dante's Inferno, where hundreds of oil fires are still burning.*

Dan·ton /ˈdæntɒn‖-tən/, **Georges Jacques** /ʒɔːʒ ʒæk‖ʒɔːrʒ ʒɑːk/ (1759–94) a leader of the French Revolution

Dan·ube /ˈdænjuːb/ [*the*] a long and important European river. It rises in the Black Forest in Germany and flows through Vienna in Austria, Budapest in Hungary, and through Romania and the former USSR, and finally into the Black Sea.

Dan·zig /ˈdæntsɪg/ the old German name for Gdansk, now in Poland

Daph·ne /ˈdæfni/ in GREEK MYTHOLOGY a woman loved by Apollo. When he chased her, she prayed to the goddess of the earth to save her and was changed into a LAUREL tree.

Daph·nis and Chlo·e , Daphnis and Chloë /ˌdæfnɨs ənd ˈkləʊi/ an early Greek love story which tells of the love and adventures of a boy and a girl found and looked after by SHEPHERDS until they both discover their rich parents and get married

dap·per /ˈdæpəʳ/ *adj* **1** (esp. of small men) very neat in appearance and quick in movements: *a dapper little salesman in a business suit* **2** *infml* nicely dressed

dap·pled /ˈdæpəld/ *adj* marked with cloudy roundish spots of colour, or of sun and shadow: *a dappled horse* | *the dappled shade of a tree*

dapple-grey /ˌ·· ˈ·◂/ *n, adj* (a horse that is) grey with spots of darker grey

DAR /ˌdiː eɪ ˈɑːʳ/ *abbrev. for* DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Dar·by and Joan /ˌdɑːbi ən ˈdʒəʊn‖ˌdɑːrbi-/ *n* [P] *BrE* **1** *infml* a happily married and quite old husband and wife: *Katherine Hepburn's romance with Spencer Tracy was the love of a lifetime – Romeo and Juliet stuff that grew into Darby and Joan.* **2 Darby and Joan club** a social club for old people

Dar·da·nelles /ˌdɑːdəˈnelz‖ˌdɑːrdnˈelz/ [*the*+P] the long narrow piece of sea connecting the Mediterranean and the Sea of Marmara between European Turkey and Asian Turkey, and the first part of the way into the Black Sea. In ancient times it was known as the Hellespont. In 1915, during the First World War, the British attacked the Dardanelles in order to get arms to Russia, but the attack failed.

dare[1] /deəʳ/ *v* **1** [I+*to-v*/*to-v*; *not usu. in progressive forms*] to be brave enough or rude enough (to do something dangerous, difficult, or unpleasant): *How dare you accuse me of lying!* | *That is as much as I dare tell you.* | *We all knew she was wrong, but none of us dared (to) tell her.* | *I daren't tell you any more, because it's highly confidential.* | *The government would never dare (to) increase taxes so soon before the election.* –see NOT (USAGE) **2** [T+*obj*+*to-v*] to try to persuade (someone) to do something dangerous as a way of proving their bravery; CHALLENGE: *I dared her to jump.* | *They dared me to spend a night in the graveyard.* **3** [T] *fml* to be brave enough to face: *He dared the anger of the entire family.* **4 who dares wins** the official MOTTO (1) of the SAS

dare[2] *n* an invitation to do something dangerous as a way of proving one's bravery; CHALLENGE: *She jumped off the bridge for a dare.*

Dare, Dan see DAN DARE

dare·dev·il /ˈdeədevəl‖ˈdeər-/ *n* a person who is prepared to take dangerous risks, esp. in a very careless way: *a daredevil motorcyclist*

daren't /deənt‖deərnt/ *BrE short for:* dare not: *I daren't ask him.*

dare·say /ˌdeəˈseɪ◂‖ˈdeərseɪ/ *v* **I daresay** *esp. BrE* I suppose (that); perhaps: *I daresay you're right.*

Dar-es-Sa·laam /ˌdɑːr es səˈlɑːm/ the former capital of Tanzania and its main port, on the Indian Ocean. It is also the main port for Zambia.

Dar·in /ˈdærɨn/, **Bobby** (1936–73) an American popular music singer who had many successful songs in the 1960s including *Dream Lover*

dar·ing[1] /ˈdeərɪŋ/ *adj* showing bravery and a willingness to take risks: *a daring rescue attempt* | *a daring escape from prison* | *a daring crime* | *a daring film* (=unusual and perhaps shocking) – ~**ly** *adv*: *a film that's daringly different*

daring[2] *n* [U] adventurous bravery or willingness to take risks: *a person/a plan of great daring*

Dar·jee·ling /dɑːˈdʒiːlɪŋ‖dɑːr-/ **1** a city in the north of India **2** a high-quality tea from the north of India

dark[1] /dɑːk‖dɑːrk/ *adj* **1** partly or completely without light: *too dark to read* | *In winter it gets dark here early.* | *a dark room* | *a dark, badly-lit street* –opposite **light 2** tending towards black: *a dark green dress*

►CULTURAL NOTE Dark suits are usu. worn by businessmen and by other men on formal occasions, e.g. at FUNERALS.◄

3 having brown or black hair **4** having a skin which is browner than usual for a white person **5** having a brown or black skin **6** sad; without much hope; GLOOMY: *dark days ahead* | *Don't always look on the dark side of things.* **7** having an evil or threatening quality; SINISTER: *There's a dark side to his character.* | *She gave me a dark look.* | *He had an obsession with dark forces.* **8** secret; hidden: *Keep it dark–don't tell anybody!* –see also tall, dark, and handsome (TALL) – ~**ly** *adv*: *"We'll see," he said darkly,* – ~ **ness** *n* [U]

dark[2] *n* **1** [*the*] the absence of light; darkness: *Can cats see in the dark?* | *Some children are afraid of the dark.* **2** [U] the time of day when there is no light: *We don't go out after dark.* | *Make sure you get home before dark.* **3 in the dark** without knowledge; in a state of IGNORANCE: *They kept the public in the dark about the new missiles.* –see also **a shot in the dark** (SHOT[1])

Dark Ag·es /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* [*the*+P] the period in European history from about AD 476 (the fall of Rome) to about AD 1000. It is generally regarded as a time when society was not very developed in art, education, literature, etc.: *"She lost her job because she was pregnant." "What? I thought we'd moved out of the Dark Ages!"*

Dark Con·ti·nent /ˌ· ˈ···/ [*the*] the name given to Africa by Europeans in the 19th century

dark·en /ˈdɑːkən‖ˈdɑːr-/ *v* [I;T] **1** to (cause to) become dark: *The sky darkened as the storm began.* | *Darken the green paint by adding black.* | *As he read the report his face darkened with anger.* –compare LIGHTEN[1] **2 Never darken my door/these doors again!** *humor or pomp* Don't come back here again!

dark glas·ses /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [*pl.*] GLASSES with dark glass to reduce the amount of light that enters the eyes, worn in strong sunshine

dark horse /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* **1** *BrE* a person who tends to keep their activities, feelings, or intentions secret, and who may have unexpected qualities or abilities: *I never know what he's thinking – he's such a dark horse.* **2** *AmE* (esp. in politics) a person in a competition about whom little is known and who surprises others by winning: *Tsongas was the dark horse of the Democratic candidates.*

dark meat /ˈ· ˌ·/ *n* [U] the darker meat from some parts of a cooked bird, such as that on the leg

dark·room /ˈdɑːkruːm, -rʊm‖ˈdɑːrk-/ *n* a dark room in which photographs can be developed

dark Sa·tan·ic mills /ˌ· ·ˌ·· ˈ·/ a phrase from William Blake's HYMN *Jerusalem*, used to suggest the unpleasant appearance and poor working conditions of the industrial buildings in the north of England in the past: *I was invited back to my old school, set among the once dark Satanic mills of Oldham in Lancashire.*

dark·y , darkey, darkie /ˈdɑːki‖ˈdɑːrki/ *n taboo derog* a black man or woman (considered extremely offensive)

dar·ling[1] /ˈdɑːlɪŋ‖ˈdɑːr-/ *n* **1** (used when speaking to someone you love or to a member of your family): *Hurry up, darling, or we'll be late.*

►CULTURAL NOTE 1 People of all classes may call someone of the opposite sex **darling** when they are in love. Many people habitually call their husbands, wives, and children **darling**. Older people use **dear** to members of their families, but it is not usu. used by younger people. Some people also call their husbands, wives, and children **sweetheart**, or (in Britain, esp. in the north of England) **love**, or (esp. in the US) **honey** or **sweetie**. However, many people in both countries do not usu. use any of these words, but call members of their families by their names or NICKNAMES. 2 People often joke about actors (of both sexes) and male HOMOSEXUALS calling all their friends **darling**.◄

2 (used informally as a friendly form of address, esp. by or to a woman; said e.g. by a person working in a shop or restaurant): *What can I get you, darling?* **3** a person who is very lovable or much liked: *My granddaughter is a little darling.* | *He used to be the darling of the Establishment until he fell from power.*

darling[2] *adj* [A] **1** dearly loved: *my darling husband|wife|daughter* **2** *infml* (used esp. by women) charming; very nice: *What a darling little house!*

Darling, Grace (1815–42) an Englishwoman whose father looked after a LIGHTHOUSE. She is remembered by British people because she bravely rowed out in a storm with her father to save nine people after their ship had sunk.

Darling Buds of May /ˌ·· ˌ· · ˈ·/, **The** an amusing British television programme about the Larkin family which looks back in time to country life in the south of England, based on a number of books by H.E. Bates

Dar·ling·ton /ˈdɑːlɪŋtən‖ˈdɑːr-/ a town in NE England known esp. for its connection with the railway industry

darn[1] /dɑːn‖dɑːrn/ *v* [I;T] to repair (a hole in cloth or a garment with a hole in it) by weaving threads through and across: *to darn a sock|the hole in a sock* –**darn** *n*

darn[2] *adj, adv, interj euph for* DAMN[1,2]

darn·ing /ˈdɑːnɪŋ‖ˈdɑːr-/ *n* [U] **1** the work of darning **2** clothes to be darned: *a basket of darning*

Dar·row /ˈdærəʊ/, **Clar·ence** /ˈklærəns/ (1857–1938) an American lawyer who is most famous for defending a teacher who was taken to court for teaching his students about EVOLUTION and Darwinism –see also SCOPES TRIAL

dart[1] /dɑːt‖dɑːrt/ *n* **1** [C] a small sharp-pointed object to be thrown, shot, etc., esp. one used as a weapon or in games: *a poisoned dart* –see also DARTS **2** [S] a quick sudden movement in a particular direction: *The prisoner* **made a dart for** *the door.* **3** [C] a fold sewn into a garment to make it fit better

dart[2] *v* **1** [I+*adv/prep*] to move suddenly and quickly: *He darted towards the door|across the road.* | *The fish darted under the rock.* **2** [T+*obj*+*adv/prep*] to throw or send out suddenly and quickly: *The snake darted out its tongue.* | *He darted an angry look at me.*

d'Ar·tagn·an /dɑːˈtænjən‖ˌdɑːrtəˈnjɑːn/ a character from the book *The Three Musketeers* by Alexandre Dumas –see also THREE MUSKETEERS

dart·board /ˈdɑːtbɔːd‖ˈdɑːrtbɔːrd/ *n* a circular board at which darts are thrown in games

Dart·ford Tun·nel /ˌdɑːtfəd ˈtʌnl‖ˌdɑːrtfərd-/ [*the*] a road which goes under the River Thames at Dartford, E of London, and connects the two halves of the M25, the road that goes all the way round London

Darth Va·der /ˌdɑːθ ˈveɪdəʳ‖ˌdɑːrθ-/ a frightening and evil character in the film *Star Wars* –see also STAR WARS and see colour picture on page 685

Dart·moor /ˈdɑːtmɔːʳ, -mʊəʳ‖ˈdɑːrt-/ **1** a large wild open hilly area of great natural beauty in Devon in SW England. Dartmoor is one of the ten National Parks in England and Wales. **2** Dartmoor Prison, a prison where dangerous criminals are kept. It is a long way from other places, and is thought to be very difficult to escape from.

Dartmoor po·ny /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* a small horse of the kind that live wild on Dartmoor

Dart·mouth /ˈdɑːtməθ‖ˈdɑːrt-/ a port in Devon, England. Many British naval officers are trained at the **Royal Naval College** there.

darts /dɑːts‖dɑːrts/ *n* [U] any of several games in which DARTS[1] (1) are thrown at a circular board (a DARTBOARD): *They were playing darts in the bar.*

►CULTURAL NOTE Many people think of darts as a game played by working class men in PUBS and working men's clubs.◄

Dar·win /ˈdɑːwɨn‖ˈdɑːr-/ a city on the N coast of Australia and the chief port for that area

Darwin, Charles (1809–82) a world-famous English scientist. As a young man he spent five years on the HMS Beagle, visiting many places in S America, including the Galapagos Islands. His studies led him to the important scientific idea that plant and animal forms change over long periods of time through the workings of NATURAL SELECTION. He wrote about this idea in his book *The Origin of Species*, which caused a lot of fierce argument and disagreement when it was first printed in 1859 because it did not agree with the account of the Creation in the Bible. His ideas and THEORY OF EVOLUTION are now very widely accepted. –**-ian** // *adj*

Dar·win·is·m /ˈdɑːwɨnɪzəm‖ˈdɑːr-/ *n* [S;U] the scientific idea that animals and plants have their present forms because of the working of NATURAL SELECTION (the idea that only those most suited to their conditions live, while the others die) –**-ist** *n, adj*

dash[1] /dæʃ/ *v* **1** [I+*adv/prep*] to run quickly, esp. when hurrying: *He dashed across the street|up the stairs.* | *They've been dashing about all day.* | *I must dash (off) – I've got to catch a train.* –see RUN (USAGE) **2** [I+*prep;* T+*obj*+*prep*] to (cause to) strike violently, often resulting in damage or destruction: *The waves dashed (the boat) against the rocks.* | *In her fury, she dashed all the plates to the floor.* **3** [T] to put an end to (esp. hopes): *The injury dashed his hopes of running in the Olympics.* **4** [T] *BrE euph for* DAMN[2]: *Dash it all, I've lost again!*

dash sthg. ↔ **off** *phr v* [T] to write or draw quickly and without serious attention: *to dash off a letter*

dash[2] *n* **1** [S] a sudden quick run: *The prisoners* **made a dash for** *freedom.* **2** [C *usu. sing.*] a short race for runners; SPRINT[2] (2): *the 100-yard dash* **3** [C (**of**)] a small amount of something mixed with or added to something else: *a dash of pepper|colour* –see picture at PIECE **4** [C] a mark (–) used in writing and printing: *The dash is longer than the hyphen.* –compare HYPHEN **5** [U] a combination of bravery, style, and self-confidence; PANACHE **6** [(*the*) S] the sound of liquid hitting something: *the dash of the waves against the side of the ship* **7** [C] a long sound or flash of light used in sending messages by Morse Code –compare DOT[1] (2) **8** [C] *esp. AmE* a dashboard **9 cut a dash** to make people admire you because of your appearance and style

dash·board /ˈdæʃbɔːd‖-bɔːrd/ also **dash** *esp. AmE*– *n* the instrument board in a car –see picture at CAR

dashed /dæʃt/ *adj* [A] *BrE old-fash euph for* DAMN[1] (1): *That dashed cat! He's here again!*

dash·ing /ˈdæʃɪŋ/ *adj* having style and self-confidence: *a dashing young officer* – ~**ly** *adv*

dast·ard·ly /ˈdæstədli‖-ərd-/ *adj old-fash* behaving like a coward and a BULLY

DAT /ˌdiː eɪ ˈtiː/ *n* [U] digital audio tape, used to record sounds as a set of coded (CODE[2]) numbers, giving better quality results than other methods

da·ta /ˈdeɪtə, ˈdɑːtə/ *n* [P;U] **1** facts; information: *We can't tell you the results of the survey until we have looked at all the data.* **2** information in a form that can be processed by and stored in a computer system: *We use a keyboard to input the data.*

▷ USAGE Although it is plural in its Latin form, **data** is now coming to be used as an uncountable noun: *These* **data** *are very interesting.* | *This* **data** *is very interesting.* Some people still do not like this uncountable use of the word.◁

da·ta·base /ˈdeɪtəbeɪs/ also **data bank** /ˈ·· ·/– *n* a large collection of data that is stored in a computer system in such a way that it can easily be found by a computer user

database man·age·ment sys·tem /ˌ··· ˈ··· ˌ··/ *n* a system used in a computer that organizes the arrangement of data in a database and controls entry to, the putting in of, and the taking out of that data

data bus /ˈ·· ·/ *n tech* an electrical path along which data flows between different parts of a computer system

data pen /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* a type of pen which "reads" the coded (CODE) product information on a packet, tin, etc. and gives the price, name and type of product, etc.

Da·ta·post /ˈdeɪtəpəʊst/ *tdmk* (in Britain) a Royal Mail service for urgent parcels, letters, etc.: *Send these parcels (by) Datapost, please.*

data pro·cess·ing /ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n* [U] the use of data by computers

Data Pro·tec·tion Act /ˌ·· ·ˈ·· ˌ·/ [*the*] a British law, effective since 1987, that protects people against the misuse of information about them stored on computers, and makes it necessary for people who hold personal information on computers to REGISTER with an authority

date[1] /deɪt/ *n* **1** a stated point in time shown by one or more of the following: the number of the day, the month, and the year (but not usu. by the month alone): *The date on the coin is 1921.* | *"What's the date today?" "It's the third of August."* | *They agreed to discuss the details of the contract* **at a later date**. (=at some time in the future) | *The* **closing date** *for this competition* (=the date after which entries will not be accepted) *is December 31st, 1993.* **2** a fixed arrangement to meet at a particular time and place: *The two leaders have not yet* **set a date** *for their next meeting.* | *The sixth is OK? Well, let's make that a date then.* **3** *infml* **a** a planned social meeting between a man and woman, or boy and girl: *Does your mother let you go out on dates?* –see also BLIND DATE **b** *esp. AmE* a person with whom one has this sort of arrangement: *Of course you can bring your date to the party.* –see also DATE[2] (5), DOUBLE DATE

►CULTURAL NOTE It is quite important for many TEENAGERS in the US and Britain to have a boyfriend or girlfriend, i.e. a friend of the opposite sex. The first date is often considered an important occasion, and an important part of becoming an adult. On a date, a boy and girl may go to the cinema, to a restaurant, or to a dance, etc., and on some dates a boy and girl may expect to hold hands, kiss, and hold each other.◄

4 to date *fml* until today; yet: *We made our offer four weeks ago but we have not had a reply to date.* – see also OUT-OF-DATE, UP-TO-DATE

date[2] *v* **1** [T] to guess or decide the date of: *The archaeologists have dated the building to about 250 BC.* **2** [T] to write the date on: *The leaked document was dated June 11th.* **3** [I] to begin to seem unfashionable; become DATED: *His songs are so good that they have hardly dated at all.* **4** [T] to show clearly the age of: *He's got a big collection of Beatles records, so that dates him rather!* **5** [I;T] *infml, esp. AmE* to go on or have a DATE[1] (3) with (someone or each other): *She's been dating him for months but it's still not very serious.* | *They've been dating (each other) since April.* –see also BLIND DATE –**datable, dateable** *adj*

date back to sthg. also **date from** sthg.– *phr v* [T *no pass.*] to have lasted or existed since: *This church dates back to 1173.* | *The custom dates from the time when men wore swords.*

date[3] *n* a small fruit with a long stone inside, which grows on a tree (**date palm**) in hot dry countries and turns brown and sweet as it dries: *pressed dates*

dat·ed /ˈdeɪtɪd/ *adj* clearly belonging to a former time; old-fashioned; OUTMODED: *It was a good film when it came out, but it looks rather dated now.*

Da·tel /ˈdeɪtel/ *tdmk* in Britain, a system for sending information from one computer to another by telephone. Bank computers, for example, use Datel at night.

date·line /ˈdeɪtlaɪn/ *n* **1** INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE **2** a line in a newspaper article that gives its date and place of origin

Dateline *n tdmk* a very large British DATING AGENCY that uses computers to find partners for people

date-mark /ˈ· ·/ *n* [U] a mark showing the date esp. a letter (**date-letter**) stamped on gold or silver PLATE[1] (5) showing the date when the object was made: *The date-mark on this teapot shows it to be about a hundred years old.* –**date-mark** *v* [T]

date of birth /ˌ· · ˈ·/ *n* the date on which someone was born: *Give full personal details, including date of birth.* | *Date of birth: 2.4.72.*

date rape /ˈ· ·/ *n* [C;U] the RAPE of a woman by a man that she knows and usu. that she has spent the evening with socially: *Date rape is an under-reported crime on many campuses.*

date stamp /ˈ· ·/ *n* **1** a stamp with letters and numbers that can be changed according to the date one wants for recording the date one sends or receives a letter, pays a bill, etc. **2** the mark made by such a stamp –**date stamp** *v* [T]

dating a·gen·cy /ˈ·· ˌ···/ *n* an organization which brings together people who want to meet others, usu. for the purpose of forming a social and sexual relationship, sometimes leading to marriage. People pay for this service and fill in a form giving details about themselves and the kind of person they would like to meet, or sometimes make a VIDEO of themselves –see also COMPUTER DATING AGENCY

da·tive /ˈdeɪtɪv/ *n tech* a particular form of a noun in certain languages, such as Latin and German, which shows that the noun is the INDIRECT OBJECT of a verb –**dative** *adj*

Dat·sun /ˈdætsən/ *tdmk* a Japanese company that makes cars

daub[1] /dɔːb/ *v* **1** [T] to cover with something soft and sticky: [+*obj*+**with**] *His clothes were daubed with mud and oil.* | *to daub the wall with paint* [+*obj*+**on**] *She daubed paint on the wall.* –see SPREAD (USAGE) **2** [I] *infml* to paint pictures without much skill

daub[2] *n* **1** [U] mud or clay for making walls –see also WATTLE AND DAUB **2** [C] a small bit of a soft or sticky substance: *a daub of paint|of butter* **3** [C] a badly painted picture

daugh·ter /ˈdɔːtəʳ/ *n* **1** someone's female child: *They have two daughters and a son.* | *a present for their baby daughter* | *Our daughter is getting married on Saturday.* **2** something thought of as a daughter: *French is a daughter (language) of Latin.*

daughter-in-law /ˈ·· · ·/ *n* **daughters-in-law, daughter-in-laws** the wife of one's son. In the West the daughter-in-law does not usu. become so much part of her husband's family as she does in some other societies. – compare SON-IN-LAW

daugh·ter·ly /ˈdɔːtəli‖-tər-/ *adj fml* having the qualities of a good daughter. This is an uncommon word that most people would avoid using: *daughterly concern for her parents*

Daughters of the A·me·r·i·can Rev·o·lu·tion /ˌ·· · · ·ˌ··· ··ˈ··/ also **DAR**– *n* [*the*+P] a society for American women whose families have been in America since the AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR. The society generally supports NATIONALISTIC and RIGHT-WING ideas.

daunt /dɔːnt/ *v* [T *often pass.*] **1** to cause to lose courage or determination; DISHEARTEN: *He didn't seem daunted by the difficulties facing him.* | *The examination questions were rather daunting.* –see also UNDAUNTED **2 nothing daunted** *fml* not discouraged by difficulties: *The rock-face looked very steep but, nothing daunted, he started climbing.*

daunt·less /ˈdɔːntləs/ *adj esp. lit* not easily discouraged; fearless: *dauntless fighters* – ~**ly** *adv*

dau·phin /ˈdəʊfæn‖ˈdɔːfən/ *n* (*often cap.*) the oldest son of the king of France in former times

dav·en·port /ˈdævənpɔːt‖-pɔːrt/ *n AmE* a large SOFA, often one which can be changed into a bed

Da·vid /ˈdeɪvɨd/ **1** a famous STATUE of a man, made in MARBLE by Michelangelo. It is thought of as one of the best examples of the human form in art. —see picture at MICHELANGELO **2** see SAINT DAVID

David, Elizabeth (1914–92) an English cookery writer known esp. for writing about French and Mediterranean food

David, King (died about 962 BC) a king of Israel before the time of Christ. His story is told in the Bible and he is said to have written some of the Psalms. His friendship with **Jonathan**, the son of **Saul**, the first king of Israel, is used as an example of the most loyal friendship possible between two people. When David was just a boy he killed the GIANT Goliath with a stone from his SLING[2] (3), and this has led to the names **David** and **Goliath** being used when people want to describe someone small and weak trying to defeat someone very strong: *For years Lech Walesa was a David fighting Goliaths.* —see colour picture on page 424

David Cop·per·field /ˌdeɪvɨd ˈkɒpəfiːld ‖ -ˈkɑːpər-/ a NOVEL by Charles Dickens describing the life of a boy called David Copperfield in Victorian England. Many well-known characters appear in it, among them Mr Micawber and Uriah Heep.

Da·vies /ˈdeɪvɨz/, **Sir Peter Maxwell** (1934–) an English COMPOSER (=writer of music)

da Vin·ci /də ˈvɪntʃi/, **Le·o·nar·do** /ˌliːəˈnɑːdəʊ ‖ -ɑːr-/ (1452–1519) a great Italian painter of the Renaissance. Among his most famous works are *The Last Supper* and the *Mona Lisa*. He is also famous for his cleverness and his strong interest in science. Sometimes he is known just as Leonardo. —see colour picture on page 1016

Da·vis /ˈdeɪvɨs/, **An·ge·la** /ˈændʒɨlə/ (1944–) a black American woman who is active in LEFT-WING politics

Davis, Bet·te /ˈbeti/ (1908–89) an American film character actress whose working life in films covered over 50 years. She was known for her powerful, DRAMATIC performances.

Davis, Sir Col·in /ˈkɒlɨn‖ˈkɑː-/ (1927–) a well-known British CONDUCTOR (=a person who directs the playing of a group of musicians)

Davis, Jefferson (1808–89) the president of the Confederate states during the American Civil War —see also CIVIL WAR (2)

Davis, Joe /dʒəʊ/ (1901–78) an English SNOOKER player who was world CHAMPION for 20 years

Davis, Miles /maɪlz/ (1926–91) an American TRUMPET player and JAZZ band leader

Davis, Steve /stiːv/ (1958–) an English SNOOKER player who won three world titles in the 1980s and who is known for his calm, quiet play

Davis Cup /ˌ·· ˈ·/ [*the*] an important international men's tennis competition

dav·it /ˈdævɨt, ˈdeɪvɨt/ *n* either of a pair of long curved poles that swing out over the side of a ship for lowering boats, etc.

Da·vy Jones's lock·er /ˌdeɪvi dʒəʊnzɨz ˈlɒkəʳ‖-ˈlɑːkər/ *infml humor* the bottom of the sea, esp. as a place where people lie dead

daw·dle /ˈdɔːdl/ *v* [I] *infml* to waste time; move or do something very slowly: *He dawdled all morning|all the way to school.* | *The children dawdled over their food.* —**-dler** *n*

Dawes Plan /ˈdɔːz ˌplæn/ [*the*] a plan thought up by Charles G. Dawes, an American banker, to help Germany pay its REPARATIONS (=a payment for damage) to other countries after the First World War

Daw·kins /ˈdɔːkɪnz/, **Richard** (1941–) a British scientist who has studied the behaviour of animals and written about animal behaviour and EVOLUTION. He is known esp. for his book *The Selfish Gene.*

dawn[1] /dɔːn/ *n* **1** [C;U] also **daybreak**— the time of day when light first appears; the first appearance of light in the sky before the sun rises: *The postman has to get up before dawn every day.* | *the stillness of a summer dawn* | *We drove all night and arrived just as* **dawn was breaking.** —compare DUSK **2** [*the* (**of**)] the beginning or first appearance of a new period, idea, feeling, etc.: *the dawn of civilization|of hope|of the new technology* **3 at (the) break of dawn** at the first light of day

dawn[2] *v* [I] (of the day, morning, etc.) to begin to grow light just before the sun rises: *The morning dawned fresh and clear after the storm.*

dawn on/upon sbdy. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] to become known by: *It suddenly|gradually dawned on me that I'd caught the wrong train.*

dawn cho·rus /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [often *the*] loud singing by many different birds together at dawn

dawn raid /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* an early morning attack or police action: (fig.) *a dawn raid on the ailing company's shares*

Daw·son /ˈdɔːsən/, **Les** /lez/ (1934–93) a popular English COMEDIAN who has often appeared on television and is known esp. for telling jokes about his MOTHER-IN-LAW

day /deɪ/ *n* **1** [C] a period of 24 hours: *There are seven days in a week.* | *the day before yesterday* | *the day after tomorrow* | *the last day of our vacation* | *Christmas Day was a Wednesday last year.* —see also DAYS; see USAGE

►CULTURAL NOTE Different days of the week have different activities connected with them. Many people joke about disliking **Monday** morning, when the working week begins. In Britain, **Wednesday** or **Thursday** may be EARLY CLOSING DAY in a small town, when many of the shops shut for the afternoon. **Friday** is the day that many non-professional workers get paid. It is also the last working day before the weekend, and people often feel very glad when Friday comes. People may go out for a meal or dancing on Friday night. **Saturday** is also a busy shopping day. Most people do not work on Saturday. It is also a day for doing jobs at home, such as cleaning the car. In the afternoon there are sports events such as football matches, and in the evening people often go out, for a meal, or dancing, or to a friend's house for dinner. **Sunday** is the day when Christians go to church; the main SERVICE[1] (6) is in the morning. Other people may have a LIE-IN (=stay in bed late). The Sunday papers are larger than the daily ones and some people spend a long time reading them. In Britain many people follow the custom of a Sunday lunch consisting of ROAST meat and vegetables followed by a PUDDING. People may visit relatives or friends, or go out somewhere in the car.◄

2 [C;U] the time between sunrise and sunset: *Call me in the evening as I'm usually out during the day.* | *It rained all day and all night.* **3** [C] a period of work within a 24-hour period: *She works an eight-hour day and a five-day week.* | *She's paid by the day.* | *Did you have a good day at the office?* —see also WORKING DAY **4** [C] also **days** *pl.*— a particular period or point of time: *Young people have a lot of freedom* **these days|in this day and age.** (=now) | *In the days before the war|In those days|In my day* (=in the past), *things were different.* | **Some day|One day** (=at some time in the future) *we'll take a trip to China.* —see also DAYS[1] **5** [S] a period of success or fame: **In her day**, *she was a very well-known singer.* | *He used to be a very good actor, but I'm afraid he's* **had his day** *now.* (=he is no longer good or popular) **6** [*the*] *lit* a struggle, battle, or competition: *to lose|win the day* **7 by day** during the day (esp. when compared with **by night**): *He works in an office by day and drives a taxi by night.* —see also DAYS[2] **8 day after day|day in day out** continuously for many days: *It went on raining day after day.* **9 day and night** all the time: *noisy neighbours who play their radio day and night* **10 from day to day|day by day** each day; as time goes on: *The situation changes from day to day.* **11 from one day to the next** two days in a row: *I never know her plans from one day to the next.* **12 go ahead|on, make my day** a phrase made famous by an American film by Clint Eastwood, when he was carrying a gun and inviting his enemy to make a move so that he would have a reason to shoot him **13 have a nice day** a phrase used, esp. in the US, when saying goodbye to someone during the day **14 make someone's day** *infml* to make someone very pleased and happy: *It made her day when her grandchildren came to see her.* **15 the other day** in the recent past: *I saw your friend the other day.* **16 to the day** (of time) exactly: *We left Spain one year ago to the day.* (=exactly one year ago) **17 to this day** until now: *I haven't told him the whole story to this day!* —see also DAYS, **in all my born days**

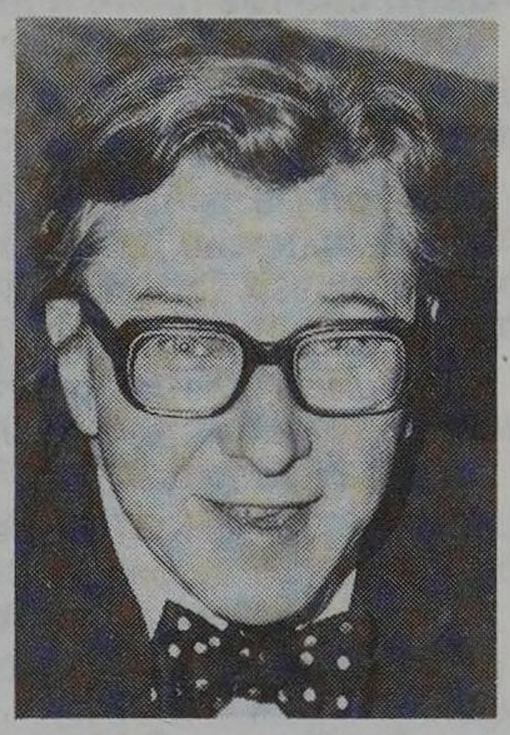
(BORN[2]), **call it a day** (CALL[1]), **at the end of the day** (END[1])

▷ USAGE If today is Wednesday, then Monday was **the day before yesterday** and Friday will be **the day after tomorrow.**◁

Day[1], Dor·is /ˈdɒrəs‖ˈdɔː-/ (1924–) an American singer and actress who has appeared in many films and on television and was esp. popular in the 1950s. Her appearance and her image are thought to be pure, healthy, and home-loving.

Day[2], Sir Robin (1923–) an English broadcaster and writer. He is famous for his INTERVIEWS of politicians, in which he asks them very sharp and thorough questions in a very determined way. He often wears a BOW TIE with spots on it.

Sir Robin Day



Day·an /daɪˈjɑːn‖dɑː-/, **Mosh·e** /ˈmɒʃeɪ‖ˈməʊ-/ (1915–81) a soldier who was the Foreign Minister of Israel from 1977 to 1979, remembered abroad esp. because he wore a PATCH (5) over one eye

day·boy /ˈdeɪbɔɪ/ *n esp. BrE* a boy who is a DAY PUPIL

day·break /ˈdeɪbreɪk/ *n* [U] DAWN[1] (1)

day camp /ˈ· ·/ *n AmE* a place where children can go during the day on school holidays to do various activities such as sports or CRAFTS: *There will be several day camps in the park from July 6 for children aged 6 to 16.*

day care /ˈ· ·/ also **daycare**– *n* [U] **1** (in Britain) the care of people who cannot look after themselves during the day, by paid workers **2** (in the US) the care of children during the day whose parents are both working –**day-care** *adj* [A] : *day-care centres*

day·dream /ˈdeɪdriːm/ *n* a pleasant dreamlike set of thoughts while one is awake, often drawing attention away from present surroundings: *a daydream about being a rock star* –**daydream** *v* [I] : *Sorry, I wasn't listening – I was daydreaming.* – ~**er** *n*

day·girl /ˈdeɪgɜːl‖-gɜːrl/ *n esp. BrE* a girl who is a DAY PUPIL

day·glo , day-glo /ˈdeɪgləʊ/ *adj* [A] *tdmk* of a bright orange, green, yellow, or pink colour that seems to give out light (GLOW) in the daytime: *dayglo socks|paint*

day·light /ˈdeɪlaɪt/ *n* [U] **1** the light of day: *We'll keep on driving while there's still daylight.* | *the daylight hours* **2** the very beginning of the day; DAWN **3 see daylight** to begin to understand something: *I thought about the problem for days before I began to see daylight.* –see also DAYLIGHTS

daylight rob·ber·y /ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n* [U] *infml* the act of charging far too much money for something: *£2.50 for a cup of coffee? It's daylight robbery!*

day·lights /ˈdeɪlaɪts/ *n* [P] *infml* life; consciousness: *I'll* **beat/knock the (living) daylights out of** *you if you do that again.* (=strike or beat you very severely) | *That spider* **scared the (living) daylights out of** *me.* (=frightened me very much)

daylight sav·ing time /ˌ·· ˈ·· ·/ also **daylight savings time, daylight time** /ˈ·· ˌ·/ – *n* [U] (in the US) time shown on clocks that is one hour ahead of the standard time, used during the summer –compare BRITISH SUMMER TIME

day nur·se·ry /ˈ· ˌ···/ *n* a NURSERY (1)

Day of A·tone·ment /ˌ· · ·ˈ··/ [*the*] a Jewish holiday on which Jews do not eat but pray for forgiveness for the things they have done wrong (SINS) during the past year. It is also known as Yom Kippur.

day off /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* **days off** a day when one does not go to work and one has a day's holiday: *I work on Saturdays, so I get Mondays as my day off.* | *My boss keeps asking me to go in on my day off.*

day of judg·ment /ˌ· · ˈ··/ [*the*] (*often cap.*) JUDGMENT DAY

day of reck·on·ing /ˌ· · ˈ···/ *n* [*the*] a time when the results of past mistakes are felt, or when past offences are punished

Day of the Jack·al /ˌ· · · ˈ··/, **The** a film (based on the book of the same name by the English writer, Frederick Forsyth) about a professional killer attempting to murder the then French president General de Gaulle

day out /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* **days out** a day when one goes somewhere for the whole day, in order to enjoy oneself: *We haven't had a day out for ages.*

day pu·pil /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n esp. BrE* a pupil who lives at home but goes to a school where some of the pupils live. The pupils who live in the school usu. regard day pupils as less important.

day re·lease course /ˌ· ·ˈ· ·/ *n BrE* an educational course attended by workers who are allowed to leave their work on certain days; they are said to be **on day release**

day re·turn /ˌ· ·ˈ·/ *n BrE* a ticket for travel to the place you are going to and back again on the same day. Day returns are usu. cheaper if you do not travel at the busiest time in the morning, when everyone is going to work.

day·room /ˈdeɪruːm, -rʊm/ *n* a public room for reading, writing, and amusement in schools, military camps, hospitals, etc.

days[1] /deɪz/ *n* [P] **1** one's life: *He began his days in the island of Corsica, but went on to become Emperor of France.* **2 his/her/its days are numbered** someone or something cannot live or continue much longer: *Your days of slaving over a hot stove are numbered; the microwave is now taking over in a big way.*

days[2] *adv esp. AmE* by day repeatedly; during any day: *She works days.*

day school /ˈ· ·/ *n* **1** [C;U] a school whose pupils attend only during the day, returning home at night and at weekends –compare BOARDING SCHOOL **2** [C] a special course of lessons, talks, etc., given on a single day

day·time /ˈdeɪtaɪm/ *n* [(*the*) U] the time between sunrise and sunset; DAY (2): *I can't sleep in the daytime.* | *daytime flights* –opposite **nighttime**

day-to-day /ˌ· · ˈ·◂/ *adj* [A] **1** happening as a regular part of life: *the day-to-day routine* | *life's day-to-day problems* –compare EVERYDAY **2** planning for one day at a time with little thought for the future: *Since his wife died he's been living a day-to-day existence.*

Day·to·na Beach /deɪˌtəʊnə ˈbiːtʃ/ a city in the US state of Florida where a famous car race is held

day trip /ˈ· ·/ *n BrE* a visit to somewhere, usu. by bus or train, just for pleasure and only lasting one day: *They're going on a day trip to Blackpool.*

day-trip·per /ˈ· ˌ··/ also **tripper**– *n esp. BrE, often derog* a person on a pleasure trip to somewhere, which only lasts one day: *I hate Yarmouth at this time of year. You can't move for all the day-trippers.*

Daz /dæz/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a type of WASHING POWDER made by Procter and Gamble Limited

daze[1] /deɪz/ *v* [T *often pass.*] to make unable to think or feel clearly, esp. by a shock or blow; STUPEFY: *After the accident Jean was dazed.* | *The news left us dazed.* – ~**dly** /ˈdeɪzədli/ *adv*

daze[2] *n* **in a daze** in a dazed condition

daz·zle /ˈdæzəl/ *v* [T] **1** to make unable to see because of a sudden very strong light shining in the eyes: *The lights of the car dazzled me.* **2** to fill with wonder or admiration: *She was dazzled by her sudden success* | *a dazzling display of skill.* –**dazzle** *n* [S] : *The theatre was a dazzle of bright lights.*

DBE /ˌdiː biː ˈiː/ *n* Dame Commander of the (Order of the) British Empire; a title given in Britain to a woman as an honour because she has done something of national importance. A woman who has a DBE can use the title **Dame** instead of **Mrs, Miss,** or **Ms**: *She was awarded a DBE in 1992.*

dbl *abbrev. for:* DOUBLE (1)

DBMS /ˌdiː biː em ˈes/ *n* database management system; a set of computer PROGRAMS which controls and makes easier the use of information stored on a computer

DBS /ˌdiː biː ˈes/ *n* [U] direct broadcasting by SATELLITE; a way of broadcasting many different television programmes to people's houses. To receive these programmes, people have to buy a special part for their television set and a receiving dish for the outside of their house.

DC /ˌdiː ˈsiː◂/ *abbrev. for:* **1** DIRECT CURRENT —compare AC **2** District of Columbia (the area of the US containing its capital): *Washington, DC* —see also WASHINGTON DC **3** Detective Constable; the lowest rank in the British police force's PLAIN-CLOTHES division

DCC /ˌdiː siː ˈsiː/ *abbrev. for:* DIGITAL COMPACT CASSETTE

DCD /ˌdiː siː ˈdiː/ *abbrev. for:* DIGITAL COMPACT DISC

DD /ˌdiː ˈdiː/ *abbrev. for:* DIRECT DEBIT

D-day /ˈ· ·/ *n* **1** 6th June, 1944; in the Second World War, the day the ALLIES landed in France to begin the spread of their forces through Europe, under the command of General Eisenhower. It is remembered for its military organization, willingness to work effectively together, and success. **2** a day on which an important operation or planned action is to begin: *So, today is D-day, then?*

DDS /ˌdiː diː ˈes/ *n AmE* Doctor of Dental Surgery; (a title for someone who has qualified (QUALIFY) to be) a DENTIST

DDT /ˌdiː diː ˈtiː/ *n* [U] a chemical that kills insects. DDT was used on food crops all over the world until it was discovered that it remains in the crops and can harm people.

DE *written abbrev. for* DELAWARE

de- see WORD FORMATION

DEA /ˌdiː iː ˈeɪ/ *n abbrev. for* DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

dea·con /ˈdiːkən/ *n* (in various Christian churches) a religious official who is directly below a priest in rank

dead[1] /ded/ *adj* [*no comp.*] **1** no longer alive: *I'm afraid he's dead.* | *a dead man|cat|leaf* | *Two of the terrorists were shot dead* (=shot and killed) *by the police.* —compare INANIMATE; see also DECEASED[1], DEPARTED (2) **2** no longer in use, operation, or existence: *a dead language* | *dead ideas* —compare LIVING[1] (2) **3** without the necessary power to work properly: *dead matches* | *a dead battery* | *The telephone* **went dead** *in the middle of our conversation.* —compare LIVE[2] (3,4) **4** [A] complete: *a dead stop* | *dead silence* | *a dead loss* (=a completely useless person or thing) **5** without life, movement, or activity: *dead rocks and stones* | *The whole place seems dead.* **6** [F] unable to feel; NUMB: *It's so cold that my fingers have gone dead.* **7** (of a ball in some sports) out of PLAY[1] (8) **8** (of sounds and colours) dull; not clear or bright **9 dead as a doornail** *infml* completely dead **10 dead to the world** very deeply asleep or unconscious —see also DEATH, **flog a dead horse** (FLOG) — ~**ness** *n* [U]

dead[2] *n* [P often *the*] people who have died: *The dead are thought to number more than 400.* | *Because of the continued fighting, families have been unable to bury their dead.* | *the resurrection of the dead* —see also DECEASED[2], DEPARTED (2)

dead[3] *adv* **1** suddenly and completely: *The train stopped dead.* **2** [+*adj*] *infml* completely: *dead certain* | *dead tired* **3** [+*adv|prep*] *infml* directly: *dead ahead* | *His shot was dead on target.*

dead[4] *n* **in the dead of night/winter** in the quietest or least active period of the night or winter

dead-and-a·live /ˌ· · ·ˈ·/ *n BrE* (of a place, person, or activity) uninteresting; dull

dead beat /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *adj infml* completely tired

dead·beat /ˈdedbiːt/ *n sl* **1** a lazy aimless person **2** *AmE infml* someone who avoids paying their debts

dead cen·tre /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [*the*] (in) the exact centre: *Aim for the dead centre.*

dead duck /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n infml* a plan, idea, etc., that has failed or is likely to fail

dead·en /ˈdedn/ *v* [T] to cause to lose strength, feeling, brightness, etc.: *This drug will deaden the pain.* | *The thick walls of the shelter deadened the noise of the bombing.*

dead end /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *n* **1** an end (esp. of a street) with no way out **2** a position or situation beyond which movement or development is impossible: *We've come to a dead end in our efforts to reach an agreement.*

dead-end job /ˌ· · ˈ·/ *n* a boring job, often needing little skill or ability, which does not lead to other more exciting jobs

dead ground /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* [U] ground through which one can move without being seen by the enemy, e.g. because of the way the ground slopes

dead·head[1] /ˈdedhed/ *n AmE* **1** a person who rides on a train, bus, etc., without buying a ticket **2** a car, bus, TRUCK, or train which is empty when it is moved

deadhead[2] *v* [I] *AmE* to drive a train, bus, or TRUCK without passengers or goods: *I'm going to deadhead home as soon as I unload these potatoes.*

dead heat /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* a race in which two or more competitors finish at exactly the same time

dead let·ter /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* **1** a letter that cannot be either delivered or returned to the sender **2** a law or rule that still exists but that people no longer obey

dead·line /ˈdedlaɪn/ *n* a date or time before which something must be done or completed: *Next Tuesday is the deadline for sending in your application.* | *I'm* **working to a deadline.** (=My work must be finished by a certain time.) | *Can you* **meet the deadline?** (=finish in time)

dead·lock /ˈdedlɒk‖-lɑːk/ *n* [C;U] a position in which a disagreement cannot be settled; STALEMATE: *The talks about arms control have reached (a) complete deadlock.* | *Will the new proposal* **break** (=end) **the deadlock?** —**deadlock** *v* [I;T] —**deadlocked** *adj* : *the deadlocked Vietnam peace talks*

deadlock *n* [C,U] a position in which...break (=end) the deadlock

dead loss /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n sl* a complete waste; something or someone that is completely useless: *He won't know, he's a dead loss at maths.*

dead·ly[1] /ˈdedli/ *adj* **1** likely to cause death: *a deadly poison|weapon* **2** aiming to kill or destroy: *deadly enemies* **3** [A] complete or total: *He said it* **in deadly earnest.** (=completely seriously) | *deadly accuracy* **4** [A] like death in appearance: *deadly paleness* **5** *infml* very uninteresting; dull: *a deadly party|bore* —**-liness** *n* [U]

deadly[2] *adv* **1** very (in phrases like **deadly serious, deadly dull, deadly boring**) **2** like death: *deadly pale*

deadly night·shade /ˌdedli ˈnaɪtʃeɪd/ also **belladonna**— *n* [C;U] a poisonous European plant from which the drug BELLADONNA is obtained

deadly sin /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* a MORTAL SIN —see also SEVEN DEADLY SINS

dead-man's float /ˌ· · ˈ·/ *n* [S] *AmE* the act of staying on the surface of water with one's face in the water and one's arms and legs out to one's sides: *The first thing you'll learn in your swimming class is the dead-man's float.*

dead march /ˈ· ·/ *n* a piece of solemn slow marching music for a funeral

dead·pan /ˈdedpæn/ *adj, adv infml* with no show of feeling, esp. when telling jokes as if they were serious: *deadpan humour* | *She played her part completely deadpan.*

dead par·rot sketch /ˌ· ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* [*the*] the most famous SKETCH[1] (3) from the humorous British television programme *Monty Python's Flying Circus*. It is about a man who goes into a pet shop to complain about his dead parrot. People sometimes describe someone who has completely failed or been completely defeated as "a dead parrot". —see also MONTY PYTHON

dead reck·on·ing /ˌ· ˈ···/ *n* [U] the mapping of the position of a ship or aircraft without looking at the sun, moon, or stars —compare RECKONING

dead ring·er /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [+**for**] *infml* someone who looks very like someone else: *You're a dead ringer for my brother.*

Dead Sea /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ [*the*] a very large lake in the Middle East. It is well-known firstly because the water is very salty and people float on it very easily, and secondly because of the discovery near it of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Dead Sea Scrolls /ˌ· · ˈ·/ [*the*+P] ancient Jewish religious writings written or copied around the time of Christ and found near the Dead Sea between 1947 and 1956

dead weight /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* something which is very heavy to carry, esp. because it is alive but unable to move its body, e.g. because it is unconscious

dead wood /ˌ· ˈ·/ *BrE* ‖ **dead·wood** /ˈdedwʊd/ *AmE* — *n* [U] people or things that are useless or no longer needed: *The problem with that company is that it's got too much dead wood.* | *There's quite a bit of dead wood in the report, so it should be easy to shorten it.*

deaf[1] /def/ *adj* **1** unable to hear at all or to hear well: *Look, he's got a hearing aid — he's deaf.* | *sign language for deaf*

people | Speak up; I'm rather deaf. **2** [F **(to)**] unwilling to hear or listen: *She was deaf to all my requests.* **3 turn a deaf ear to** to be unwilling to hear or listen to: *My parents turned a deaf ear to my requests for money.* —compare **turn a blind eye to** (BLIND[1]); —see BLIND[2] (USAGE) —~**ness** *n* [U]

deaf[2] *n* [P often *the*] people who are deaf: *a special school for the deaf | the profoundly deaf*

deaf-aid /ˈ· ·/ *n BrE infml for* HEARING AID

deaf-and-dumb /ˌ· · ˈ·◂/ *adj* deaf and unable to speak — **deaf-and-dumb** *n AmE*

deaf·en /ˈdefən/ *v* [T] to make deaf, esp. for a short time: *We were deafened by the noise.* | *deafening* (=very loud) *music* —see BLIND[2] (USAGE)

deaf-mute /ˌ· ˈ·‖ˈ· ·/ *n, adj fml* (a person who is) deaf and unable to speak

deal[1] /diːl/ *v* **dealt** /delt/ **1** [I;T **(to,** OUT**)**] to give out (playing cards) to players in a game: *It's my turn to deal.* | *to deal (out) the cards* | *I dealt three cards to each player.* [+*obj(i)*+*obj(d)*] *He dealt me three cards.* **2** [T **(to,** OUT**)**] to give, esp. as a share of something: *I dealt out two biscuits to each of the children.* **3** [T] *esp. lit or old use* to strike (a blow): [+ *obj*(*i*) + *obj*(*d*)] *She* **dealt him a blow** *on the head.* **4** [I;T] *sl* to buy and sell (illegal drugs)

deal in sthg. *phr v* [T *usu. not pass.*] to buy and sell; trade in: *She deals in men's clothing.*

deal with sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** to take action about; TACKLE: *effective measures to deal with drug smuggling* | *All complaints will be dealt with by the manager.* | *It was a difficult situation, but she dealt with it effectively.* **2** to be about; have as a subject: *The book deals with the troubles in Ireland.* **3** to do business, esp. trade, with: *I've dealt with this store|person|company for 20 years.*

deal[2] *n* **1** [C] an agreement or arrangement, esp. in business or politics, esp. one that is to the advantage of both sides: *The car company has* **done** (*BrE*)/**made** (*AmE*) **a deal** *with a Polish firm to supply engines in exchange for wheels.* | *The prosecution lawyers offered to do a deal with the defence in order to get the man convicted.* | *Do we have a deal?* **2** [S] a particular type of treatment that is given or received: *They promised to give the nurses a better deal* (=more money, etc.) *if they were elected.* | *We have been getting* **a rough/raw deal.** (=unfair treatment) —see also NEW DEAL **3** [S **(of)**] a quantity or degree, usu. large: *We have spent* **a great deal of** *money on the new hospital.* | *You will have to work* **a good deal** *faster.* —see MORE (USAGE) **4** [C] the process of giving out cards to players in a card game: *Whose deal is it?* —see also DEALER (2) **5 it's a deal** I agree to the arrangement you have just suggested: *"I want sixty dollars for it." "I'll give you forty." "Fifty." "OK, it's a deal."* —see also BIG DEAL

deal[3] *n* [U] *esp. BrE* FIR or PINE wood used for making things: *a deal table*

deal·er /ˈdiːlə[r]/ *n* **1** a person in a stated type of business: *a used-car dealer* | *a drug dealer* —see also DOUBLE-DEALER **2** a person who deals playing cards

deal·er·ship /ˈdiːləʃɪp‖-lər-/ *n* a place that deals in the stated product: *There's a Rover dealership in Riverhead.*

deal·ing /ˈdiːlɪŋ/ *n* [U] methods of business or personal relations: *I believe in* **plain dealing.** (=honest methods, esp. in business)

deal·ings /ˈdiːlɪŋz/ *n* [P] personal or business relations: *I've had some dealings with him, but I don't know him very well.*

dean /diːn/ *n* (*sometimes cap.*) **1** (esp. in the Anglican Church) a high-ranking priest in charge of several priests or church divisions **2** (in some universities) a person in charge of a division of study, or in charge of students and their behaviour, or, in the US, in charge of a part of the administration

Dean, James (1931–55) an American film actor who played young men opposed to authority. He died in a car crash. His most famous film was *Rebel Without a Cause*, and many people think of him as representing youthful REBELLION. —see colour picture on page 228

dean·e·ry /ˈdiːnəri/ *n* the area controlled by a DEAN (1) or the office of a dean

Dean's List /ˈ· ˌ·/ *n* [*the*] in the US, a list of students in a college or university who have reached a high standard in their work

dear[1] /dɪə[r]/ *adj* **1** much loved: *He's my dearest friend.* **2** [A] (*usu. cap.*) (used at the beginning of a letter): *Dear Jane* | *Dear Sir* **3** [F+**to**] precious; of the greatest importance: *His family is very dear to him.* **4** *esp. BrE* expensive: *It's too dear: I can't afford it.* —~**ness** *n* [U]

dear[2] *n* **1** (*esp. BrE*) a person who is loved or lovable: *Be a dear and make me some tea.* **2 a** (used when speaking to someone you love or to a member of your family): *Did you have a good day at work, dear?* **b** (used informally as a friendly form of address, esp. by or to a woman; said e.g. by a person working in a shop or restaurant): *That will be fifty pence please, dear.* —see DARLING[1] (CULTURAL NOTE)

dear[3] *interj* (used for expressing surprise, sorrow, slight anger, discouragement): *Oh dear! I've spilled my coffee.* | *"My mother is ill again." "Dear! Dear! I'm sorry to hear that."* | *Dear me! I'm going to be late!*

dear[4] *adv* **cost someone dear** to result in a lot of suffering and trouble: *Her decision to marry him cost her dear.*

Dear Ab·by /ˌdɪər ˈæbi/ *n tdmk* an American newspaper COLUMN written by Abigail Van Buren which prints letters from readers asking for advice along with answers —see AGONY AUNT, Ann LANDERS

dear·est /ˈdɪərɨst/ *n often pomp* (used for speaking to someone) a much-loved person: *The flowers are for you, (my) dearest.* —see also **nearest and dearest** (NEAR[1])

Dear John let·ter /ˌ· ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a letter to a man from his wife or girlfriend which tells him that she no longer loves him

dear·ie /ˈdɪəri/ *n* DEARY

dear·ly /ˈdɪəli‖ˈdɪərli/ *adv* **1** with strong feeling, esp. of love: *I would dearly love to go back to Scotland.* | *He loves his wife dearly.* **2** at a terrible cost in time, effort, pain, etc.: *He paid dearly for his mistake.* **3 dearly beloved** dear people; used by a priest talking to his CONGREGATION: *Dearly beloved, we have come together in the sight of God...*

dearth /dɜːθ‖dɜːrθ/ *n* [S+**of**] *fml* a lack (of); SHORTAGE

dear·y /ˈdɪəri/ also **dearie**– *n old-fash infml* (used when speaking to someone) DEAR[2]

death /deθ/ *n* **1** [C;U] the end of life; time or manner of dying: *He remained in good health right up to his death.* | *His mother's sudden death was a great shock to him.* | *Drunken driving causes thousands of deaths every year.* | *Did she die a natural death, or was she murdered?* | *The judge sentenced him to death by hanging.* —compare BIRTH; see also DECEASE, DEMISE **2** [U] the state of being dead: *as still|cold as death* | *Hundreds of animals were burned* **to death** *in the forest fire.* —compare LIFE (3) **3** [C **(of)**] the cause of loss of life (often in the phrase **be the death of**): *Drinking will be the death of him.* | *If you go out without a coat, you'll* **catch your death of cold.** —see also DEADLY[1] **4** [S;U] destruction or disappearance: *a defeat that meant the death of all my hopes* | *Death to imperialism!* **5** [U] (*usu. cap.*) the destroyer of life, usu. represented as a SKELETON: *a picture of Death wearing a black cloak and holding a sickle* **6 at death's door** *esp. humor* very ill, and likely to die: *Anyone would think he was at death's door, the way he's complaining, but he's only got a bit of a cold!* **7 like death warmed up** *BrE* ‖ also **like death warmed over** *AmE– infml* very ill or tired: *Ever since I caught this cold, I've been feeling like death warmed up.* **8 in at the death** present at the death of a hunted animal or at the defeat of a person, plan, etc. **9 nothing is certain but death and taxes** *quote* a slightly changed phrase from a piece of writing by Benjamin Franklin **10 put to death** to kill, esp. with official permission: *The prisoners were all put to death.* **11 till death us do part** *BrE* ‖ **till us do us part** *AmE quote* a phrase from the Christian marriage service. The two people getting married promise that they will stay together and love each other "till death us do part" (=until one of them dies). **12 to death** beyond all acceptable limits: *I am sick to death of their complaints.* | *Your mother will be worried to death about you.* —see also KISS OF DEATH, **do to death** (DO[2])

death·bed /ˈdeθbed/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] the bed on which someone dies: *He forgave them* **on his deathbed.** | *a deathbed repentance|conversion*

death·blow /ˈdeθbləʊ/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] an act or event that destroys or ends: *His refusal to help us* **dealt a deathblow to** *our plans.*

death camp /ˈ· ·/ *n* a CONCENTRATION CAMP, esp. one of the German camps of the Second World War

death cer·tif·i·cate /ˈ· ·ˌ···/ *n* a legal document signed by a doctor stating the fact and usu. the cause of someone's death. In Britain and the US a person may not be legally buried without a death certificate.

death du·ties /ˈ· ˌ··/ *BrE* ‖**death tax** /ˈ· ·/ *AmE– n* [P] money that had to be paid to a government as a tax on property that had been left to a person when the original owner had died. This tax is now called INHERITANCE TAX and sometimes also ESTATE TAX in the US.

Death in Ven·ice /ˌ· · ˈ··/ a book by Thomas Mann, later made into a film, in which the HERO, a successful writer, comes to love a beautiful Polish boy and cannot make himself leave Venice, even though there is CHOLERA there. The cholera finally kills him. People sometimes make jokes, esp. about Venice, using this phrase.

death·less /ˈdeθləs/ *adj* unforgettable; IMMORTAL (used jokingly about things which are exactly the opposite): *the Inland Revenue's usual deathless prose* – ~**ly** *adv*

death·like /ˈdeθlaɪk/ *adj* like death or like that of death: *a deathlike paleness|silence*

death·ly /ˈdeθli/ *adj, adv* like death: *a deathly cold body | a deathly silence|hush*

death mask /ˈ· ·/ *n* a copy of a dead person's face made by pressing a soft material (e.g. PLASTER OF PARIS) over the face

Death of a Sales·man /ˌ· · · ˈ··/ a play of the late 1940s by Arthur Miller in which Willy Loman, the main character, kills himself after he loses his job

death pen·al·ty /ˈ· ˌ···/ also **death sen·tence** /ˈ· ˌ··/ [*the*] punishment by death –see CAPITAL PUNISHMENT (CULTURAL NOTE)

death rate /ˈ· ·/ *n* the number of deaths for every 100 or 1000 people in a particular year in a particular place –compare BIRTHRATE

death rat·tle /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* an unusual noise sometimes heard from the throat of a dying person

death row /ˌdeθ ˈrəʊ/ *n* [U] *esp. AmE* the part of a prison in which those prisoners are kept who will be punished by death: *convicted murderers waiting on death row*

death's-head /ˈ· ·/ *n* a human SKULL representing death

death squad /ˈ· ·/ *n* [C + *sing./pl.v*] a group of people who travel around killing political opponents, often acting on the orders of a political party. Death squads are usu. thought of as working in countries where DEMOCRACY does not exist or is not very strong.

death toll /ˈ· ·/ *n* the number of people who died in a particular way or because of a particular event: *The death toll from the earthquake is approaching two hundred.*

death trap /ˈ· ·/ *n infml* something very dangerous to life: *That old boat is a real death trap.*

Death Val·ley /ˌ· ˈ··/ a DESERT area in the US states of Nevada and California. It is one of the hottest places in the world, and many PIONEERS died trying to cross Death Valley.

death war·rant /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a written official order to kill (EXECUTE) someone

death·watch bee·tle /ˈdeθwɒtʃ ˌbiːtl ‖ -wɑːtʃ-, -wɔːtʃ-/ *n* an insect that causes serious damage to old buildings by digging into the wood

death wish /ˈ· ·/ *n* [S] a conscious or unconscious desire for death

deb /deb/ *n infml for* DEBUTANTE

de·ba·cle also **débâcle** *BrE* /deɪˈbɑːkəl, dɪ-/ *n* a badly organized event which is a complete failure: *Our high school sports day was a complete débâcle.*

de·bar /dɪˈbɑːr/ *v*
debar sbdy. **from** sthg. *phr v* **-rr-** [T+*obj*/*v-ing*] to officially prevent from: *Until recently, people who did not own property were debarred from jury service|from serving on juries in Britain.* –compare DISBAR

de·bark /dɪˈbɑːk‖-ɑːrk/ *v* [I] *becoming rare* **1** to take the outside off (a tree) **2** to DISEMBARK – ~**ation** /ˌdiːbɑːˈkeɪʃən‖-ɑːr-/ *n* [C;U]

de·base /dɪˈbeɪs/ *v* [T] **1** to reduce in quality or value or in the opinion of others; DEGRADE: *The word "situation" is so overused that it has become rather debased.* **2** to lower the real value of (coins) by making them with less valuable metal: *to debase the currency* **3 debase the coinage** to make people have a lower opinion of something: *It's no use lowering the standard for university entry. It's just debasing the coinage.* – ~**ment** *n* [C;U]

de·ba·ta·ble /dɪˈbeɪtəbəl/ *adj* **1** doubtful; perhaps not true; questionable: *a debatable statement | It's debatable whether this policy has caused unemployment.* **2** claimed by more than one country: *a debatable border area*

de·bate[1] /dɪˈbeɪt/ *n* **1** [C] a meeting, esp. in public, in which a question is talked about by at least two people or groups, each expressing a different opinion: *There was a long debate in Parliament on the question of capital punishment. | a heated debate* **2** [C *usu. sing.*;U] the process of talking about a question in detail; DISCUSSION: *After much debate, the committee voted to close the school.| How to solve this problem is still a matter for debate. | the current debate on inner-city crime* (=this is a subject that people generally are now talking about)

debate[2] *v* **1** [I;T] to hold a debate about (something), usu. in an attempt to reach a decision: *They debated for over an hour on the merits of the different systems. | The Senate will debate the subject of tax increases.* [+*wh*-] *They debated whether to accept the management's proposals.* **2** [T] to consider in one's own mind the arguments for and against something: *I debated the idea in my mind.* [+*wh*-] *She debated whether to accept their offer.* –-**bater** *n* 5: *a skilled debater*

de·bauch[1] /dɪˈbɔːtʃ‖dɪˈbɔːtʃ, dɪˈbɑːtʃ/ *v* [T *usu. pass.*] to cause to behave badly, esp. in relation to sex and alcohol: *debauched young men*

debauch[2] *n* an occasion of wild behaviour, esp. in relation to sex and alcohol; wild party or ORGY

de·bauch·ee /ˌdebɔːˈtʃiː, -ˈʃiː‖dɪˌbɔːˈtʃiː, dɪˌbɑː-/ *n derog* a debauched person

de·bauch·e·ry /dɪˈbɔːtʃəri‖dɪˈbɔː-, dɪˈbɑː-/ *n* [U] wild behaviour, esp. in relation to sex and alcohol: *a life of total debauchery*

de Beau·voir /də ˈbəʊvwɑːr‖-ˌbəʊˈvwɑːr/, **Si·mone** /siːˈməʊn/ (1908–86) a French writer, thought by some to be the mother of FEMINIST writing and whose name is often connected to that of Jean-Paul Sartre

Deb·en·hams /ˈdebənəmz/ *n* [C;U] one of a group of large shops in Britain, selling mainly clothes and goods for the house

de·ben·ture /dɪˈbentʃəʳ/ *n* **1** *BrE* an official paper that is sold by a business company and represents a debt on which the company must pay the buyer a fixed rate of interest; BOND[1] (3) **2** *AmE* a BOND[1] (3) which is not guaranteed (GUARANTEE) by the property of the company that sells it

de·bil·i·tate /dɪˈbɪlɪteɪt/ *v* [T] to make weak, esp. through heat, illness, or hunger: *a debilitating disease | We were all debilitated by the extreme heat.*

de·bil·i·ty /dɪˈbɪlɪti/ *n* [U] *fml* weakness, esp. as the result of disease

deb·it[1] /ˈdebɪt/ *n* **1** a record in a book of accounts of money spent or owed **2** a charge against a bank account –compare CREDIT[1] (3); see also DIRECT DEBIT

debit[2] *v* [T] **1** [(**against**)] to record (an amount of money taken from an account): *Debit £10 against Mr Smith|Mr Smith's account.* **2** [(**with**)] to charge with money owed: *Debit Mr Smith|Mr Smith's account with £10.* –compare CREDIT[2] (2)

debit card /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a small plastic card which is used instead of money or a CHEQUE to pay for goods and services from shops, garages, etc. The cost is taken directly from the user's bank account. Debit cards can also be used to obtain money from CASH DISPENSERS. –compare CHARGE CARD, CHEQUE CARD, CREDIT CARD; see also SWITCH

debit note /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a document informing a buyer that his or her bank account has been debited with the amount shown on the note, usu. because the buyer was charged too little originally

deb·o·nair /ˌdebəˈneəʳ◂/ *adj apprec, becoming rare* (usu. of men) cheerful, charming, and fashionably dressed: *a debonair manner|young man*

de Bo·no /də ˈbəʊnəʊ/, **Dr Edward** (1933–) a Maltese-

born British doctor who invented the idea of LATERAL THINKING

de·bouch /dɪ'baʊtʃ, -'buːʃ/ *v* [I+*adv/prep*] *esp. tech* (esp. of a river) to come out from a narrow place (such as a valley) into a broader place: *The river debouches into a wide plain.* | (fig.) *a football crowd debouching from a row of buses*

De·brett's /də'brets/ also **Debrett**– *n* **1** a book which is a guide to the members of the British royal family and the people of the highest social class **2** a company which produces books about correct social behaviour

de·brief /ˌdiː'briːf/ *v* [T] to officially get information from (someone such as a SPY, ASTRONAUT, or HOSTAGE) after completion of a job, trip, or escape from an enemy country –compare BRIEF[3]

deb·ris /'debriː, 'deɪ-‖də'briː, deɪ-/ *n* [U] the remains of something, usu. something large such as a building, that has been broken to pieces or destroyed; ruins: *After the bombing|the earthquake there was a lot of debris everywhere.*

debt /det/ *n* **1** [C] something owed to someone else: *a debt of £10* | *to pay one's debts* | (fig.) *We owe you a debt of gratitude for your help.* **2** [U] the state of owing; the duty of repaying something: *I'm heavily in debt at the moment, but hope to be out of debt when I get paid.* | *I'll always be in debt to you for your help.* | *If we spend more than our income we'll* **run into debt.** (=begin to owe money) –see also BAD DEBT, NATIONAL DEBT

►CULTURAL NOTE In the past, people were often rather ashamed of getting into debt, but now it is considered quite normal to owe money on one's CREDIT CARD, on a HIRE PURCHASE deal, etc. People sometimes talk of a 'buy now, pay later' mentality.◄

debt col·lect·or /'· ·ˌ··/ *n* someone who is employed to collect debts: *Look out of the window and see if that's the debt collector at the door.*

debt of hon·our /ˌ· · '··/ *n* a debt that one ought to pay even though the law does not force one to

debt·or /'detəʳ/ *n* a person, group, or organization that owes money: *debtor nations* –compare CREDITOR

de·bug /ˌdiː'bʌg/ *v* **-gg-** [T] *infml* **1** to search for and remove the BUGS (=faults) in (a computer PROGRAM) **2** to remove the BUGS (=secret listening apparatus) from (a room or building)

de·bunk /ˌdiː'bʌŋk/ *v* [T] *infml* to point out the true facts about (people, ideas, etc. that have received too much praise): *Their version of events was once widely believed, but now it's been thoroughly debunked.* –~**er** *n*

De·bus·sy /də'bjuːsi, -'buː-‖ˌdeɪbjuː'siː/, **Claude** /klɔʊd/ (1862–1918) a French COMPOSER (=writer of music), one of the first to try to make images and show feelings through the quality of the sounds rather than through the patterns of the notes

de·but /'deɪbjuː, 'debjuː‖deɪ'bjuː, dɪ-/ *n* a first public appearance: *The singer made his debut as Mozart's Don Giovanni.*

deb·u·tante /'debjʊtɑːnt/ also **deb** *infml*– *n* a young UPPER-CLASS woman who attends certain special parties, dances, and other social events as a way of being formally introduced to upper-class society

DEC /dek/ Digital Equipment Corporation; the world's second largest maker of computers, with main offices in the US and branches in many countries

Dec. *written abbrev. for:* December

dec·ade /'dekeɪd, de'keɪd/ *n* a period of ten years: *Prices have risen steadily during the past decade.* | *a movement which grew in the early decades of this century*

dec·a·dence /'dekədəns/ *n* [U] **1** a fall to a lower or worse level, e.g. of morality, civilization, or art, from a former higher or better level **2** a state of having low standards of behaviour or morality

dec·a·dent /'dekədənt/ *adj* marked by decadence; in a state of DECLINE, esp. morally: *the last decadent years of the Roman Empire* | *How decadent to stay in bed all day!* –~**ly** *adv*

de·caf /'diːkæf/ *adj,n* [U] *abbrev. for:* decaffeinated (coffee or, rarely, tea)

de·caf·fei·na·ted /diː'kæfəneɪtəd/ *adj* with the CAFFEINE (=a drug which makes you feel more active) removed. Some people drink decaffeinated coffee, tea, or COLA because ordinary coffee or tea excites their mind and they feel unwell or cannot sleep, and some drink it because they think ordinary tea and coffee are bad for the heart.

de·cal /'diːkæl, 'de-‖diː'kæl, 'dekəl/ *n esp. AmE for* TRANSFER[2] (3)

Dec·a·logue /'dekəlɒg‖-lɔːg, -lɑːg/ [*the*] *tech* the Ten Commandments

De·cam·e·ron /dɪ'kæmərən/ [*the*] a group of amusing stories, often about sex, by the great Italian writer Boccaccio. Written in the middle of the 14th century this work had a great influence on English literature.

de·camp /dɪ'kæmp/ *v* [I] *infml* to leave a place quickly and usu. in secret: *The lodger has decamped without paying his bill.*

de·cant /dɪ'kænt/ *v* [T] **1** to pour (liquid, esp. wine) from one container into another **2** *infml* to move (people) from one living or working place into another

de·cant·er /dɪ'kæntəʳ/ *n* a container (usu. of glass and decorated) for holding alcoholic drinks, esp. wine, before they are poured into glasses. It is used for decorative effect and, in the case of wine, to improve the taste.

decanter



de·cap·i·tate /dɪ'kæpəteɪt/ *v* [T] to cut off the head of, esp. as a punishment; BEHEAD –**-tation** /dɪˌkæpə'teɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

de·cath·lon /dɪ'kæθlɒn‖-lɑːn, -lən/ *n* a competition in ATHLETICS in which the competitors have to take part in ten separate events: *The decathlon includes the 100 metres sprint, the long jump, and the javelin.* –compare PENTATHLON, BIATHLON

de·cay[1] /dɪ'keɪ/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) go through chemical changes which cause destruction: *Sugar can decay the teeth.* | *decayed wood* **2** [I] to fall to a lower or worse state; lose health, power, activity, etc.; DECLINE: *Perhaps all nations decay in the course of time.* | *a decaying urban area*

decay[2] *n* [U] **1** the process or state of decaying: *The empty house has* **fallen into decay**. | *The wood has been specially treated to be resistant to decay.* **2** the decayed parts of the teeth: *The dentist used a drill to remove the decay.*

Dec·ca /'dekə/ a large company which produces music recordings and entertainment equipment such as televisions, etc.

de·cease /dɪ'siːs/ *n* [U] *fml or law* death: *Upon your decease the house will pass to your wife.*

de·ceased[1] /dɪ'siːst/ *adj fml, euph, or law* (of people) no longer living, esp. recently dead

deceased[2] *n* **deceased** [*the*] *fml, euph, or law* the dead person; a word used esp. by policemen, lawyers, and UNDERTAKERS: *The deceased left a large sum of money to his wife.* | *The deceased were both killed with the same knife.*

de·ceit /dɪ'siːt/ *n* **1** [U] the quality of being dishonest **2** [C] a trick; DECEPTION (2)

de·ceit·ful /dɪ'siːtfəl/ *adj* tending to deceive; dishonest –~**ly** *adv* –~**ness** *n* [U]

de·ceive /dɪ'siːv/ *v* [T (**into**)] to cause (someone) to accept as true or good what is false or bad, usu. for a dishonest purpose: *He deceived me – he lied about the money.* | *They deceived her into signing the papers.* | *Unless my eyes deceive me, that's the vice-president sitting over there.* | *You're just deceiving yourself if you carry on believing that she loves you.* –**-ceiver** *n*

de·cel·e·rate /ˌdiː'seləreɪt/ *v* [I;T] *tech* to (cause to) go slower, esp. in a vehicle: *to decelerate when approaching a corner* –opposite **accelerate** **-ration** /ˌdiːselə'reɪʃən/ *n* [U]

De·cem·ber /dɪ'sembəʳ/ (*written abbrev.* **Dec.**) *n* [C;U] the 12th and last month of the year, between November and January. December 25th is Christmas Day. In Britain and the northern parts of the US, December, January, and February are the winter months. The temperature is low and there may be snow and ice: *It happened on December the tenth|on the tenth of December|(AmE) on December tenth.* | *This office opened in December 1991.* | *She started work here last December|the December before last.*

de·cen·cies /ˈdiːsənsiz/ *n* **observe the decencies** *becoming rare* to behave in accordance with socially accepted standards of behaviour

de·cen·cy /ˈdiːsənsi/ *n* [U] the quality of being decent: *I know you didn't like him, but at least* **have the decency to** *go to his funeral!*

de·cent /ˈdiːsənt/ *adj* **1** proper; socially acceptable; not causing shame or shock to others: *decent behaviour | Those tight trousers of yours aren't very decent!* —opposite **indecent** **2** good enough; ADEQUATE: *a decent wage|standard of living | You can get quite a decent meal there without spending too much.* **3** *infml* nice; kind: *It was very decent of you to drive me to the station.* —**~ly** *adv*

de·cen·tral·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /ˌdiːˈsentrəlaɪz/ *v* [I;T] **a** to move (government, a business, etc.) from one central place or office to several different smaller ones **b** (of government, a business, etc.) to move in this way —see also CENTRALIZE —**-ization** /ˌdiːsentrəlaɪˈzeɪʃən‖-lə-/ *n* [U]

de·cep·tion /dɪˈsepʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the act of deceiving **2** [C] something that deceives; a trick

de·cep·tive /dɪˈseptɪv/ *adj* tending or intended to deceive; misleading: *She seems to have plenty of confidence, but appearances are sometimes deceptive.* —**~ly** *adv*: *The salesman made it look deceptively simple.* —**~ness** *n* [U]

dec·i·bel /ˈdesɨbel, -bəl/ *n tech* a measure of the loudness of sound

dec·i·bels /ˈdesɨbelz, -bəlz/ *n* [P] *infml humor* noise

de·cide /dɪˈsaɪd/ *v* **1** [I (**on**);T] to make a choice or judgment about (a course of action), esp. in a way that ends uncertainty or disagreement; reach a decision about: *I don't know which one to take — I'll let you decide. | We've decided on Paris* (=that we will go to Paris) *for our next holiday. | After long discussion they decided in favour of the younger candidate. | What has the committee decided?* [+*wh-*] *We couldn't decide which one to buy|whether to buy the red one or the blue one.* [+*to-v*/(*that*)] *She's decided to say no|that she will say no. | The court has decided for|decided in favour of the defendant.* (=passed a judgment in the DEFENDANT's favour) **2** [T] to cause to make a choice; make (someone) decide: *Your words have decided me.* [+*obj*+*to-v*] *What was it that finally decided you to give up your job?* **3** [T] to bring to a clear or certain end: *A goal in the last minute decided the match. | The chairperson has the* **deciding vote**.

de·cid·ed /dɪˈsaɪdɨd/ *adj* **1** very clear and easily seen or understood; UNQUESTIONABLE: *a decided change for the better* **2** having or showing no doubt; sure of oneself: *a man of very decided opinions* —see also UNDECIDED

de·cid·ed·ly /dɪˈsaɪdɨdli/ *adv fml* **1** in a very DECIDED (2) manner: *He spoke so decidedly that none of us dared question him.* **2** without doubt; clearly: *The company's prospects look decidedly gloomy.*

de·cid·u·ous /dɪˈsɪdʒuəs/ *adj tech* **1** having leaves that fall off in autumn: *deciduous trees* —opposite **evergreen** — compare CONIFEROUS **2** falling off seasonally or at a certain stage of development of life: *a child's deciduous teeth*

dec·i·mal[1] /ˈdesɨməl/ *adj* **1** based on the number 10: *decimal currency* **2 go decimal** to start using a DECIMAL SYSTEM, e.g. of COINAGE: *Britain went decimal in 1971.* —**~ly** *adv*

decimal[2] also **decimal frac·tion** /ˌ··· ˈ··/— *n* a PROPER FRACTION expressed by a system of counting based on the number ten. The first number following the dot in a decimal represents TENTHS, the second represents HUNDREDTHS, the third THOUSANDTHS, etc. So for example, the fraction 25/100 is written 0·25 as a decimal. —compare INTEGER, VULGAR FRACTION

dec·i·mal·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /ˈdesɨməlaɪz‖ˈdesəmə-/ *v* [I;T] to change to a decimal system of money, measurements, etc. —**-ization** /ˌdesɨməlaɪˈzeɪʃən‖ˌdesəmələ-/ *n* [U]

decimal point /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* the dot at the left of a DECIMAL[2]: *That's 10·6* (=ten point six), *not 106; you've forgotten the decimal point!*

decimal sys·tem /ˈ··· ˌ··/ *n* a system of counting based on the number ten

dec·i·mate /ˈdesɨmeɪt/ *v* [T] to destroy a large part of: *Disease decimated the population.* —**mation** /ˌdesɨˈmeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

de·ci·pher /dɪˈsaɪfəʳ/ *v* [T] to read or find the meaning of (something difficult or secret, esp. a CODE): *I can't decipher his handwriting.* —compare CIPHER[2]; see also INDECIPHERABLE

de·ci·sion /dɪˈsɪʒən/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a) choice or judgment; (an) act of deciding: [+ *to-v*] *Who made the decision to go there? | Whose decision was it? | The judge will give his decision tomorrow. | The committee expects to come to|reach|make a decision soon. | a bad decision | Decision is difficult in these cases.* **2** [U] the quality of being able to make choices or judgments quickly and to act on them with firmness; RESOLUTION —opposite **indecision** **3 Decisions! Decisions!** a phrase used humorously when making an unimportant decision

de·ci·sive /dɪˈsaɪsɪv/ *adj* **1** showing determination and firmness; RESOLUTE: *You'll have to be more decisive if you want to do well in business.* **2** leading to a clear result; putting an end to doubt: *They won the war after a decisive battle.* **3** unquestionable: *a decisive advantage* — opposite **indecisive** —**~ly** *adv* —**~ness** *n* [U]

deck[1] /dek/ *n* **1** a floor built across a ship over all or part of its length: *Let's go up on deck and sit in the sunshine. | Our cabin is on the lower deck.* —see picture at YACHT **2** a floor or level of a bus that has more than one **3** *esp. AmE* a set of playing cards; PACK[1] (3): *She cut the deck.* **4** *AmE* a roofless raised wooden entrance built out from the back or side of a house —compare PATIO, PORCH **5 on deck** *AmE* (esp. in BASEBALL) ready to be the next person who BATS[2] (2) **6 -decker** /ˈdekəʳ/ having a stated number of floors, levels, or thicknesses: *a double-decker bus | a three-decker sandwich* —see also TAPE DECK, **clear the decks** (CLEAR[3]), **hit the deck** (HIT[1] (10))

deck[2] *v* **1** [T (OUT)] to decorate, esp. with colourful or pretty things: [+ *obj* + **in**] *The street was decked out in flags for the royal wedding.* [+ *obj* + **with**] *The Christmas tree was decked with gifts.* **2** [T] *AmE sl* to knock (someone) down: *He made me mad so I decked him.*

deck·chair /ˈdektʃeəʳ/ *n* a folding chair with a long seat made of cloth (usu. brightly coloured CANVAS), used out of doors. They are used esp. on beaches: *sitting on deckchairs on the beach* —see picture at CHAIR

deck·hand /ˈdekhænd/ *n* a man or boy who does unskilled work on a ship

deck ten·nis /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* [U] a game, played esp. on a ship, in which the players throw a rubber ring over a net stretched across the DECK[1]

de·claim /dɪˈkleɪm/ *v* [I;T] *fml, sometimes derog* to speak loudly and clearly about (something), often using pauses and hand movements to increase the effect of the words: *She was declaiming against the waste of the taxpayers' money.*

dec·la·ma·tion /ˌdekləˈmeɪʃən/ *n fml, sometimes derog* [C;U] the act or art of declaiming —**-tory** /dɪˈklæmətəri‖-tɔːri/ *adj*

dec·la·ra·tion /ˌdekləˈreɪʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U] the act of declaring: *These events led to the declaration of war.* **2** [C] a statement giving official information: *Please make a written declaration of all the goods you bought abroad.*

Declaration of In·de·pen·dence /··ˌ·· · ··ˈ··/ *n* also **American Declaration of Independence** *esp. BrE*— [*the*] the document that declared the freedom of the original 13 American colonies (COLONY) from British rule.

►CULTURAL NOTE Written mostly by Thomas Jefferson and signed by members of the Congress, the Declaration of Independence is one of the great political documents of the western world, and was one of the first official statements by a government that "all men are created (CREATE) equal", that they have "certain INALIENABLE rights, that among these are life, LIBERTY, and the PURSUIT of HAPPINESS". Its ADOPTION (= formal acceptance) on the Fourth of July 1776 is now celebrated as Independence Day, a public holiday in the US —see also CONTINENTAL CONGRESS, FOURTH OF JULY◄

de·clar·a·tive /dɪˈklærətɪv/ *adj tech* (esp. in grammar) making a statement or having the form of a statement: *a declarative sentence* —compare IMPERATIVE, INTERROGATIVE

de·clare /dɪˈkleəʳ/ *v* **1** [T] to make known publicly or officially, according to rules, custom, etc.: *Britain* **declared war on** *Germany in 1914.* [+*obj*+*n*/*adj*] *Jones was declared the winner of the fight. | I now declare this*

meeting open. | *The medical examiner declared me fit.* **2** [T] to state or show with great force so that there is no doubt about the meaning: *He declared his loyalty to the government|his total opposition to the plan.* [+(*that*)] *She declared (that) she knew nothing about the robbery.* [+*obj*+*n*|*adj*] *She declared herself (to be) a supporter of the cause.* | *The police declared themselves (to be) completely puzzled by the lack of evidence.* **3** [T] to make a full statement of (property for which tax may be owed to the government): *The customs officer asked me if I had anything to declare.* **4** [I] (of the captain of a cricket team) to end the team's INNINGS before all its members have been put out **5** [I;T] (in a card game) to say which type of card will be played as TRUMPS **6 I declare!** *old-fash* (an expression of slight surprise or slight anger) **7 I have nothing to declare but my genius** *quote* a phrase which is believed to have been used by Oscar Wilde, the Irish writer, when going through CUSTOMS **—-clarable** *adj* : *Have you any declarable goods?* **—-claratory** /dɪˈklærətəri‖-tɔːri/ *adj*

declare against sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] to state one's opposition to

declare for sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] to state one's support for

de·clared /dɪˈkleəd‖-ˈkleərd/ *adj* openly admitted as: *a declared supporter of the government* | *It's their declared intention to increase taxes.*

de·clas·si·fy /ˌdiːˈklæsl̩faɪ/ *v* [T] to declare (esp. political and military information) to be no longer secret **—-fication** /ˌdiːklæsl̩fl̩ˈkeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

de·clen·sion /dɪˈklenʃən/ *n tech* (in some languages) a class of nouns and/or adjectives that DECLINE[1] (4) in the same way: *There are five declensions in Latin.* —compare CONJUGATION

dec·li·na·tion /ˌdeklɪˈneɪʃən/ *n* **1** *tech* the angle of a COMPASS needle, east or west, from true north: *a declination of 15 degrees* **2** *rare* a formal refusal

de·cline[1] /dɪˈklaɪn/ *v* **1** [I] to go from a better to a worse position, or from higher to lower; DETERIORATE: *His influence declined as he grew older.* | *the government's declining popularity* | *Do you think standards of morality have declined in recent years?* | *The old lady wants to spend her declining years by the sea.* **2** [I] *fml or lit* to slope downwards: *About two miles east, the land begins to decline towards the river.* **3** [I;T] to refuse (a request or offer), usu. politely; express unwillingness: *We asked them to come to our party, but they declined (the invitation).* [+*to-v*] *The official at first declined to make a statement, but later she agreed.* —see REFUSE (USAGE) **4** [I;T] *tech* **a** (of a noun, PRONOUN, or adjective) to have different grammatical forms according to its position or purpose in a sentence **b** to list or state the different grammatical forms of (a noun, PRONOUN, or adjective) — compare CONJUGATE, INFLECT

decline[2] *n* [C *usu. sing.*;U] a period or process of declining; movement to a lower or worse position: *There has been a sharp decline in profits this year.* | *The birthrate is* **on the decline**. (=getting lower)

Decline and Fall of the Ro·man Em·pire /ˌ···ˌ···ˌ···ˌ·· ˈ··/, **The** a serious historical work in a number of books written by Edward Gibbon. Its full title is *History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire.*

de·cliv·i·ty /dɪˈklɪvl̩ti/ *n fml or tech* a downward slope —compare ACCLIVITY

de·coc·tion /dɪˈkɒkʃən‖-ˈkɑːk-/ *n fml* a liquid obtained by boiling something for a long time in water

de·code /ˌdiːˈkəʊd/ *v* [T] to discover the meaning of (something written in a CODE): *We decoded the enemy's telegram.*

dé·colle·tage /ˌdeɪkɒlˈtɑːʒ‖deɪˌkɑːləˈtɑːʒ/ *n* **1** the parts of a woman's body, esp. the breasts, which show when she wears a very low-cut dress **2** a top edge of a woman's dress that is cut very low to show part of the shoulders, chest, and breasts.

dé·col·leté /deɪˈkɒlteɪ‖deɪˌkɑːləˈteɪ/ *adj* (esp. of a dress) leaving uncovered part of the shoulders, chest, and breasts

de·col·o·nize also **-nise** *BrE* /ˌdiːˈkɒlənaɪz‖-ˈkɑː-/ *v* [T] to give political independence to (a former COLONY) **—-nization** /ˌdiːkɒlənaɪˈzeɪʃən‖-kɑːlənə-/ *n* [U]

de·com·pose /ˌdiːkəmˈpəʊz/ *v* [I;T] **1** to (cause to) decay: *decomposed vegetable matter* **2** to (cause to) break up and separate into simple parts: *to decompose a chemical compound* **—-position** /ˌdiːkɒmpəˈzɪʃən‖-kɑːm-/ *n* [U]

de·com·press /ˌdiːkəmˈpres/ *v* [T] to reduce the pressure of air on **— ~ion** /ˈpreʃən/ *n* [U] : *decompression sickness* | *Deep-sea divers get back to normal air pressure by going through a* **decompression chamber**.

de·con·gest·ant /ˌdiːkənˈdʒestənt/ *n* a medicine that reduces swelling and blocking, esp. in the nose

de·con·tam·i·nate /ˌdiːkənˈtæml̩neɪt/ *v* [T] to remove dangerous (e.g. RADIOACTIVE) substances from **—-nation** /ˌtæml̩ˈneɪʃən/ *n* [U]

de·con·trol /ˌdiːkənˈtrəʊl/ *v* **-ll-** [T] to end control of: *to decontrol prices*

dé·cor /ˈdeɪkɔːr‖deɪˈkɔːr/ *n* [C;U] the decorative furnishing and arranging of a place, esp. a room, house, or stage: *It's a good restaurant, but I don't really like the décor.*

dec·o·rate /ˈdekəreɪt/ *v* **1** [T (**with**)] to provide with something that is added because it is attractive or beautiful, and not because it is necessary: *The streets were decorated with flags.* | *to decorate a cake with icing* **2** [I;T] to paint or put paper, etc., on the walls of a house: *How much will it cost to decorate the kitchen?* | *We spent the weekend decorating.* **3** [T (**for**)] to give (someone) an official mark of honour, such as a MEDAL: *They were decorated for outstanding bravery.*

▷ USAGE **Decorate, adorn, embellish,** and **garnish** all mean "to add something to, so as to make more attractive". **Decorate** is usually used of places and buildings: *The children* **decorated** *the house for Christmas.* **Adorn** (rather *fml* or *lit*)is usually used of people: *She* **adorned** *herself with jewels.* **Embellish** often has a figurative meaning: *He* **embellished** *the story to make it more amusing.* **Garnish** is most often used of cooking: *a fried fish* **garnished** *with pieces of tomato.*◁

dec·o·ra·tion /ˌdekəˈreɪʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the act or art of decorating **2** [C *often pl.*] something that decorates; ORNAMENT: *Christmas decorations* **3** [C] something given as a sign of honour, esp. a military MEDAL

dec·o·ra·tive /ˈdekərətɪv‖ˈdekərə-, ˈdekəreɪ-/ *adj* used for decorating; ORNAMENTAL: *a decorative gold table* **— ~ly** *adv*

dec·o·ra·tor /ˈdekəreɪtəʳ/ *n* **1** a person who paints houses inside and out: *I can't come and see you this week – I've got the decorators in.* **2** an INTERIOR DECORATOR

dec·o·rous /ˈdekərəs/ *adj fml* (of appearance or behaviour) correct; showing proper respect for the manners and customs of society **— ~ly** *adv*

de·co·rum /dɪˈkɔːrəm/ *n* [U] correct and respectful behaviour or appearance; PROPRIETY; a word used mainly by older people: *I hope you will behave with suitable decorum at the funeral.*

de·coy[1] /ˈdiːkɔɪ/ *n* **1** a person or thing that is used for tricking someone or getting them into a dangerous position; a word used esp. in police or military operations **2** a model of a bird that is used for attracting wild birds within range of guns: *a decoy duck*

de·coy[2] /dɪˈkɔɪ/ *v* [T (**into**)] to deceive (a person) into a position of danger: *They decoyed him into a dark street, where they robbed him.*

de·crease[1] /dɪˈkriːs/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) become less in size, amount, strength, or quality; reduce: *Our sales are decreasing.* | *They are making further efforts to decrease military spending.* —opposite **increase**

de·crease[2] /ˈdiːkriːs/ *n* **1** [C;U] the process of decreasing **2** [C (**in**)] an amount by which something decreases: *a 6% decrease in his income*

de·cree[1] /dɪˈkriː/ *n* **1** an official command or decision that has the force of law, esp. one made by a king, a military government, etc.: *to issue a decree* [+*that*] *a decree that political activity should be restricted* | *to forbid it* **by decree** **2** *esp. AmE* a judgment of certain types in a court of law

decree[2] *v* [T] to order or judge officially, with the force of law: *to decree an end to the fighting* [+*that*] *They have decreed that the fighting should end.* [+*obj*+*adj*] *The committee decreed the film unsuitable for children.*

decree ab·so·lute /ˌ·ˌ· ˈ···/ *n* **decrees absolute** *BrE law* an

order by a court that officially ends the marriage of two people, each of whom is then free to marry again: *My decree absolute comes through next week.* —see also DECREE NISI

decree ni·si /dɪˌkriː ˈnaɪsaɪ/ *n* **decrees nisi** *BrE law* an order by a court that a marriage will be ended at a certain future time (usu. after six weeks) if there is no good reason why it should not end, e.g. both people have changed their mind —see also DECREE ABSOLUTE

de·crep·it /dɪˈkrepɨt/ *adj* weak and in bad condition from old age or hard use: *a decrepit old man|old chair*

de·crep·i·tude /dɪˈkrepɨtjuːd‖-tuːd/ *n* [U] *fml* the quality of being decrepit

de·cry /dɪˈkraɪ/ *v* [T] *fml* to speak disapprovingly of; say bad things about (esp. something dangerous to the public): *to decry the violence of modern films*

ded·i·cate /ˈdedɨkeɪt/ *v* [T] to give to a holy purpose, often with a solemn ceremony: *The new church will be dedicated on Sunday.*

dedicate sbdy./sthg. **to** sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** to give completely to (a particular cause, purpose, or action); DEVOTE **to**: *The doctor dedicated her life|herself to finding a cure.* **2** to declare (a book, performance, etc.) to be in honour of (a person): *He dedicated his first book to his mother.*

ded·i·cat·ed /ˈdedɨkeɪtɨd/ *adj* **1** [(**to**)] (esp. of people) very interested in or working very hard for an idea, purpose, etc.; COMMITTED: *She's very dedicated to her work. | a dedicated doctor | This organization is dedicated to overthrowing democracy.* **2** [*no comp.*] *tech* (esp. of a computer or a computer PROGRAM) intended to be used for one particular purpose: *a dedicated word-processor* —~**ly** *adv*

ded·i·ca·tion /ˌdedɨˈkeɪʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U] the act of dedicating **2** [C;U] the quality of being dedicated, esp. in an unselfish way: *They worked with great dedication to find a cure for cancer.* **3** [C] the words used in dedicating a book or performance to someone

de·duce /dɪˈdjuːs‖dɪˈduːs/ *v* [T (**from**)] *fml* to reach a decision or judgment about (a fact or situation) by using one's knowledge or reason; INFER: *What did Darwin deduce from the presence of these species in the Galapagos?* [+*that*] *The police deduced that the murder had been committed by a woman.* —see also DEDUCTION, DEDUCTIVE —**-ducible** *adj*

de·duct /dɪˈdʌkt/ *v* [T (**from**)] to take away (an amount, a part) from a total; subtract: *The cost of the breakages will be deducted from your pay.* —compare SUBTRACT —~**ible** *adj : Your expenses are deductible from tax.*

de·duc·tion /dɪˈdʌkʃən/ *n* [C;U] **1** (an example or result of) a process of reasoning using general rules or principles to form a judgment about a particular fact or situation: *We worked out the answer by deduction. | What deductions have you made from that, Watson?* [+*that*] *Her deduction that he was now dead was correct.* —compare INDUCTION (6) **2** the process of deducting or an amount which is deducted: *Your gross salary will be £900 a month, which works out at about £650 after all deductions.*

de·duc·tive /dɪˈdʌktɪv/ *adj* using deduction; reasoning from a general idea or set of facts to a particular idea or facts: *the deductive process | deductive reasoning* —compare INDUCTIVE —~**ly** *adv*

deed /diːd/ *n* **1** *esp. lit or old use* something done on purpose; an action: *to do good deeds | to be honourable in word and deed | the murderer's evil deeds* **2** *law* a written and signed paper that is an official record of an agreement, esp. an agreement concerning who owns property —see also TITLE DEED

deed of cov·e·nant /ˌ· · ˈ···/ *n* **deeds of covenant** a legal agreement in Britain in which a person promises to pay a fixed sum to another person or organization, e.g. a CHARITY, regularly for an agreed period of time. Tax does not have to be paid on deeds of covenant.

deed poll /ˈ· ·/ *n* **deed polls** *or* **deeds poll** *law* (esp. in Britain) a legal deed signed by one person only, esp. when changing one's name: *I've changed my name by deed poll.*

dee·jay /ˌdiːˈdʒeɪ, ˈdiːdʒeɪ/ *n* a DISC JOCKEY

deem /diːm/ *v* [T *not in progressive forms*] *fml* to consider; have the opinion; judge: [+*obj*+*n*|*adj*] *We would deem it an honour if the minister agreed to meet us. | It was deemed advisable to keep the affair secret.* [+*that*] *They deemed that he was no longer capable of managing his own affairs.*

deep[1] /diːp/ *adj* **1** going far down from the top: *a deep hole in the ground | The river is very deep here.* [after *n*] *a mine two kilometres deep | ankle-deep in mud* **2** going far in from the outside or the front edge: *a deep wound | deep borders of red silk | a house deep in the forest* [after *n*] *a shelf 30 centimetres deep* (=30 centimetres from front to back) *and 120 centimetres long | cars parked three deep* **3** coming from or reaching very low in the chest: *He took a deep breath, filling his lungs with clean air at last.* —compare SHALLOW[1] (3) **4** near the outer limits of the playing area: *a hit into the deep field* **5** (of a colour) strong and dark: *The sky was deep blue.* —compare LIGHT[3] (2), PALE[1] (2) **6** (of a sound) low: *a deep voice | a deep sigh* **7** (of feelings or conditions) strong and unlikely to change; extreme; INTENSE: *deep feelings | a deep sleep | a deep sense of gratitude | a deep distrust of lawyers | a deep disorder of the mind* **8** seriously bad or damaging: *in deep trouble|dishonour* **9** understanding difficult matters thoroughly; wise: *a deep mind|thinker* **10** difficult to understand; mysterious: *deep scientific principles | a deep person | a deep dark secret* **11 go off (at) the 'deep end** *sl* to lose one's temper suddenly, violently, and unreasonably **12 in/into deep water** *infml* in/into serious trouble **13 thrown in at the 'deep end** *infml* having to begin with the most difficult part of a job —see also DEPTH, DEPTHS —~**ly** *adv : We are deeply grateful for your support. | His remarks were deeply offensive|embarrassing.* —~**ness** *n* [U]

deep[2] *adv* [+*adv*|*prep*] **1** to a great depth; deeply: *He pushed his stick deep (down) into the mud. | We're deep in debt. | She was deep in thought and didn't hear the phone ringing.* **2** far along in time; late: *They danced deep into the night.* **3 deep down** in one's true nature; in fact rather than appearance: *She may seem rather unfriendly, but deep down she's very nice.*

deep[3] *n* [*the*] *poet* the sea

deep·en /ˈdiːpən/ *v* [I;T] to make or become deeper or more extreme: *to deepen a well | deepening shadows | The crisis deepened.*

deep freeze /ˌ· ˈ·‖ˈ· ·/ *n* an apparatus for keeping food at very low temperatures; FREEZER

deep fry /ˈ· ·/ *v* [T] to FRY (food) completely under the surface of oil or fat

deep-laid /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *adj* planned in secret: *a deep-laid scheme*

deep-root·ed /ˌ· ˈ··◂/ also **deeply rooted** /ˌ·· ˈ··◂/— *adj* strongly fixed in one's nature, esp. for a long time; INGRAINED: *For some people, smoking is a deep-rooted habit.*

deep-sea div·ing /ˌ· · ˈ··/ *n* [U] the sport or activity of going down under the sea at a distance from the shore usu. from a boat and usu. with breathing equipment: *We did some deep-sea diving while we were on holiday.* —**deep-sea diver** *n*

deep-seat·ed /ˌ· ˈ··◂/ *adj* (esp. of feelings) existing far below the surface: *a deep-seated sorrow*

Deep South /ˌ· ˈ·/ [*the*] the part of the southeastern US which lies farthest south, esp. the parts of Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Mississippi which are farthest south; used esp. in talking about politics or history —see also SOUTH (1)

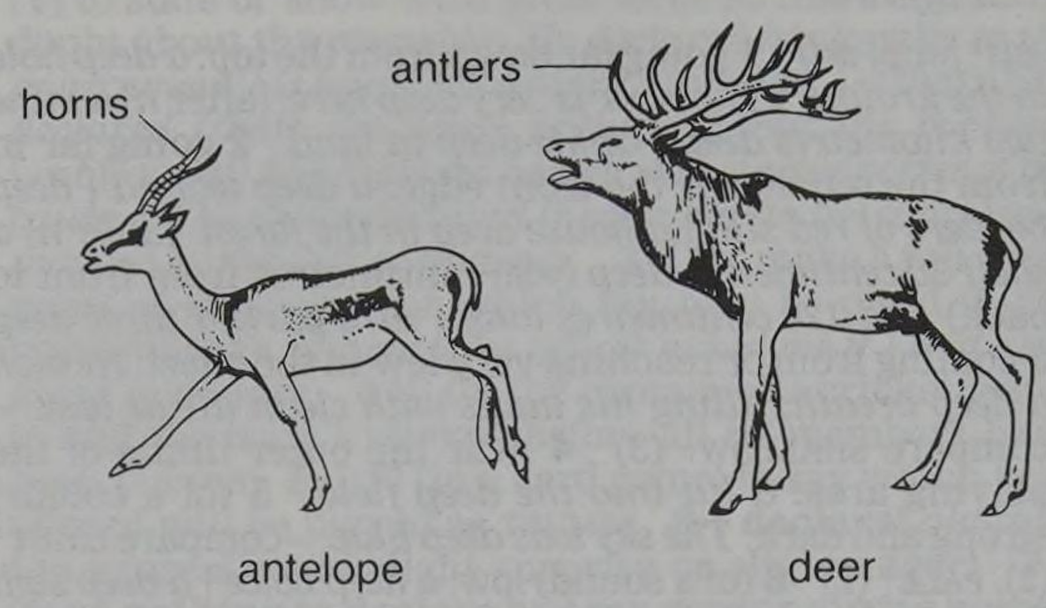
▶CULTURAL NOTE States in the Deep South are often considered to have populations which are more RACIST than other states because the economy of Southern states was based on SLAVERY before the Civil War. These states still have large black populations. People from the Deep South are also considered to be more CONSERVATIVE, and the FUNDAMENTALIST churches have strong support there. Americans sometimes use Deep South in a way that shows their dislike of or lack of respect for something from there. —see also SOUTH (1) (CULTURAL NOTE)◀

deep throat /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n AmE infml* a secret giver of information

deer /dɪəʳ/ *n* **deer** a grass-eating animal that is able to run very fast. The males usu. have wide branching horns (ANTLERS). A young deer is called a **fawn**. Deer are thought of as being gentle and TIMID animals. There is a famous Disney film about a young deer called *Bambi.* —see also RED DEER, REINDEER

deer·stalk·er /ˈdɪəstɔːkəʳ‖ˈdɪər-/ *n* a kind of soft hat with

deer



ear-coverings that can be worn up or down. Many people connect the deerstalker with Sherlock Holmes.

de-es·ca·late /ˌdiːˈeskəleɪt/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) decrease in force, range, or rate; used esp. in connection with military actions: *to de-escalate the bombing|the tensions in the region* —**-lation** /ˌdiːeskəˈleɪʃən/ *n* [U]

de·face /dɪˈfeɪs/ *v* [T] to spoil the surface or appearance of, e.g. by writing or making marks: *to deface a monument|an inscription* — ~**ment** *n* [U]

de fac·to /ˌdeɪ ˈfæktəʊ‖ˌdɪ-, ˌdeɪ-/ *adj, adv Lat fml* in actual fact, though not perhaps justly or according to law: *a de facto state of war* —compare DE JURE, IPSO FACTO

de·fame /dɪˈfeɪm/ *v* [T] *fml* to damage the good opinion held about (a person or group), usu. unfairly, by writing or saying something bad about them; LIBEL or SLANDER someone —**-famatory** /dɪˈfæmətəri‖-tɔːri/ *adj : defamatory remarks* —**-famation** /ˌdefəˈmeɪʃən/ *n* [U] : *to sue a newspaper for defamation of character*

de·fault[1] /dɪˈfɔːlt/ *v* [I] to fail to fulfil a contract, agreement, or duty, esp. **a** [(**on**)] to fail to pay a debt: *He defaulted on his payments for support of the child.* **b** to fail to take part in a competition — ~**er** *n*

default[2] *n* **1** [U] failure to do something that is demanded by duty or law, such as paying one's debts or appearing at the proper time in a court of law **2** [U] failure to take part in a competition: *She won* **by default**, *because her opponent refused to play.* **3** [C] a particular way that a computer system will perform an operation, except if the user gives it different instructions **4 in default of** because of the absence or lack of

de·feat[1] /dɪˈfiːt/ *v* [T] **1** to win a victory over, e.g. in a war, competition, or game; beat: *After a long campaign, the Duke of Wellington's army defeated Napoleon.* | *The English team was defeated by three goals to one.* | *The Opposition's motion was heavily defeated in Congress.* | (fig.) *I've tried to understand your idea, but I'm afraid it defeats me.* —see WIN (USAGE) **2** to cause to fail; FRUSTRATE (2): *It was lack of money, not of effort, that defeated their plan.* —see also SELF-DEFEATING

defeat[2] *n* **1** [C;U] (an example of) being defeated: *The government has suffered a serious defeat.* | *They remained dignified in defeat.* | *After several defeats, the team is now doing well again.* **2** [U] the act of defeating: *the defeat of our enemies* —opposite **victory**

de·feat·is·m /dɪˈfiːtɪzəm/ *n* [U] *derog* the practice of thinking or talking in a way that shows an expectation of being unsuccessful —**-ist** *n, adj* : *Don't be such a defeatist!* | *a defeatist attitude*

def·e·cate /ˈdefɨkeɪt/ *v* [I] *fml* to pass waste matter from the bowels —**-cation** /ˌdefɨˈkeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

de·fect[1] /ˈdiːfekt, dɪˈfekt/ *n* something missing or imperfect; fault: *Before they leave the factory, all the cars are carefully tested for defects.* | *a hearing defect*

de·fect[2] /dɪˈfekt/ *v* [I (**from, to**)] to desert a political party, group, or country, esp. in order to join an opposing one: *She defected to the West.* — ~**or** *n : political defectors* — ~**ion** /ˈfekʃən/ *n* [C;U] : *several defections from the Labour Party* | *What caused his defection?*

de·fec·tive /dɪˈfektɪv/ *adj* **1** not working properly; faulty: *defective machinery|hearing* **2** (of a person) well below the average, esp. in mind —see also MENTAL DEFECTIVE **3** *tech* lacking one or more of the usual forms of grammar: *"Must" and "can" are defective verbs.* — ~**ly** *adv* — ~**ness** *n* [U]

de·fence[1] *BrE* ‖usu. **defense** *AmE* /dɪˈfens/ *n* **1** [U] the act or process of defending: *the defence of one's country* | *the art of self-defence* | *He spoke* **in defence of** *justice|the government's record.* —see also CIVIL DEFENCE, SELF DEFENCE **2** [C;U] means, methods, or things used in defending: *government spending on defence* | *The defences of the city are strong.* | *She caught him when his defences were down.* | *Trees are a defence against the wind.* | *Good strong locks are the best defence against burglars.* **3** [C *usu. sing.*] arguments used in defending oneself, esp. in a court of law: *The prisoner's defence was rather weak.* | *She said, in her defence, that she had not seen the "No Parking" sign.* **4** [*the*+S+*sing.|pl. v*] the defendant in a court case together with his/her lawyer or lawyers: *The defence have|has asked for an adjournment.* —compare PROSECUTION (2) — ~**less** *adj*

defence[2] *BrE* ‖usu. **defense** *AmE* /dɪˈfens‖ˈdiːfens/ *n* **1** [C+*sing.|pl. v*] the part of a team that tries to defend its own GOAL in a match **2** [C] a set of moves or methods used in defending, esp. in CHESS: *Her defence crumbled.*

defence mech·a·nis·m /·ˈ· ˌ···/ *n* **1** a process in the brain which makes one forget about things that are difficult or painful to accept **2** a reaction by the body to fight illness: *These glands in your neck have come up as a defence mechanism to fight the infection in your mouth.*

de·fend /dɪˈfend/ *v* **1** [T (**against, from**)] to keep safe from harm; protect against attack: *The country cannot be defended against a nuclear attack.* | *When the dog came towards me I picked up a stick to defend myself.* | *The union said they would take action to defend their members' jobs.* **2** [I;T] (in sports) to protect (a position) so as to keep an opponent from advancing, making points, or winning: *They defended (their goal) with great skill.* **3** [T] to act as a lawyer for (the person who has been charged) —compare PROSECUTE (2) **4** [T] to use arguments to support, protect, or show the rightness of; JUSTIFY: *How can you defend the killing of animals for scientific research?* —see also DEFENCE, DEFENSIVE — ~**er** *n*

de·fen·dant /dɪˈfendənt/ *n* a person against whom a charge is brought in a court of law. In Britain and the US a defendant is considered to be INNOCENT until the police and the lawyers have proved his/her guilt to the JURY beyond all reasonable doubt. —compare PLAINTIFF

de·fend·er /dɪˈfendəʳ/ *n* (in sports) one of the players who tries to defend his or her team's GOAL in a match

Defender of the Faith /·ˌ·· · · ˈ·/ a title used by all kings and queens of England since Henry VIII, who was given it by the Pope at that time for writing a paper attacking the ideas of Martin Luther

defense *v AmE for* DEFENCE[1,2]

de·fen·si·ble /dɪˈfensɨbəl/ *adj* that can be defended: *a defensible fortress|position* | *His behaviour was perfectly defensible.* —**-bly** *adv*

de·fen·sive[1] /dɪˈfensɪv/ *adj* **1** that defends; used or intended for defence: *defensive weapons|tactics* | *a defensive position|alliance* —opposite **offensive** **2** *sometimes derog* (of a person or behaviour) seeming to expect disapproval or attack: *She became very defensive when I asked her how much the car had cost.* — ~**ly** *adv* — ~**ness** *n* [U]

defensive[2] *n* **on the defensive** *sometimes derog* prepared for disapproval or attack, because one is expecting it

de·fer /dɪˈfɜːʳ/ *v* **-rr-** [T] to delay until a later date; POSTPONE: *Let's defer the decision for a few weeks.* | *His military service was deferred until he finished college.* — ~**ment** *n* [C;U]

defer to sbdy./sthg. *phr v* **-rr-** [T] *humor or fml* to agree to accept the opinion or decision of (someone), esp. because of respect: *I'll be happy to defer to your advice|to your greater experience in these matters.*

def·er·ence /ˈdefərəns/ *n* [U] *fml* regard for the wishes, opinions, etc., of another person, because of one's respect or love for them, or because of the other person's higher position or greater power: *We treated her advice with* **due deference.** | *They were married in church,* **out of|in deference to** *their parents' wishes.* **-ential** /ˌdefəˈrenʃəl◂/ *adj* **-entially** *adv*

de·fi·ance /dɪˈfaɪəns/ *n* [U] defiant behaviour or a defiant manner; open disobedience: *She acted* **in defiance of** *my orders|of the law.* | *He slammed the door in a spirit of defiance.*

de·fi·ant /dɪ'faɪənt/ *adj* openly and fearlessly refusing to obey, esp. in a way that shows no respect: *a defiant child|attitude | With a last defiant gesture, they sang a revolutionary song as they were led away to prison.* —~**ly** *adv*

de·fi·cien·cy /dɪ'fɪʃənsi/ *n* [C;U] (a case of) the quality of being deficient; lack: *vitamin deficiency | The deficiencies in the system soon became obvious.*

deficiency dis·ease /·'··· ·ˌ·/ *n* [C;U] (a) disease caused by a lack of one or more food substances necessary for health

de·fi·cient /dɪ'fɪʃənt/ *adj* [(**in**)] having none or not enough (of); lacking (in); INADEQUATE: *food deficient in iron | a deficient supply of water | deficient in skill* —~**ly** *adv*

def·i·cit /'defəsət/ *n* the amount by which something is less than what is needed, esp. the amount by which money that goes out is more than money that comes in: *The directors have reported a deficit of £2.5 million.*

►CULTURAL NOTE In the US, the country's BUDGET deficit is an important political issue.◄

de·file[1] /dɪ'faɪl/ *v* [T] *fml* to destroy the pureness of: *The animals defiled the water. | disgusting video films that defile the minds of the young* —**filer** *n* —~**ment** *n* [U]

de·file[2] /dɪ'faɪl, 'di:faɪl/ *n* a narrow passage, esp. through mountains

de·fine /dɪ'faɪn/ *v* [T] **1** to give the meaning of (a word or idea); describe exactly: *Some words are hard to define because they have many different uses.* **2** to explain the exact qualities, limits, duties, etc., of: *The powers of the President are defined in the constitution. | This book attempts to define the position of the national government in local affairs.* **3** to show the edge or shape of: *I saw a clearly defined shape outside the window.* **4** [(**as**)] to show the nature of; CHARACTERIZE: *What defines us as human?*

def·i·nite /'defɪnət, 'defənət/ *adj* clearly known, seen, or stated; without any uncertainty: *So you're coming on Tuesday, after all; that's definite now, is it? | Adding the cushions has made a definite improvement to the room. | We must set definite standards for our students. | He was very definite about it.* —see also DEFINITELY; INDEFINITE

definite ar·ti·cle /ˌ··· '···/ *n* **1** (in English) the word "the" **2** (in other languages) a word used like "the" —compare INDEFINITE ARTICLE; see also ARTICLE[1] (4)

def·i·nite·ly /'defɪnətli, 'defənətli/ *adv* **1** without doubt; clearly: *That was definitely the best play I've seen all year. | She is definitely coming|definitely not coming. | "Is she coming?" "Definitely!" | "Do you smoke?" "Definitely not!"* **2** in a definite way: *He explained his intentions very definitely.* —see CERTAINLY (USAGE)

def·i·ni·tion /ˌdefə'nɪʃən/ *n* **1** [C] an exact statement of the meaning, nature, or limits of something, esp. of a word or phrase: *the definitions in a dictionary | An English person is British* **by definition**. (=it is part of the meaning of being "English") **2** [U] clearness of shape, colour, or sound: *This photograph lacks definition.*

de·fin·i·tive /dɪ'fɪnətɪv/ *adj* **1** providing a last decision that cannot be questioned or changed; CONCLUSIVE: *a definitive decision by the Supreme Court* **2** that cannot be improved as a treatment of a particular subject: *She's written the definitive life of Lord Byron.* —compare AUTHORITATIVE —~**ly** *adv*

de·flate /ˌdi:'fleɪt, dɪ-/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) become smaller by losing air or gas: *to deflate a balloon* **2** [T] to take away the pride or self-confidence of (someone), esp. suddenly: *One sharp remark is enough to deflate him.* **3** [I;T] to reduce the supply of money (of) or lower the level of prices (of); a word used in economics or financial planning: *to deflate the national economy*

de·fla·tion /ˌdi:'fleɪʃən, dɪ-/ *n* [U] **1** the act of deflating or process of being deflated **2** (in ECONOMICS) a decrease in the amount of money being used in a country, esp. as a result of government decisions, leading to less demand for goods, less industrial activity, and usu. intended to or likely to cause lower prices —compare INFLATION, REFLATION

de·fla·tion·a·ry /ˌdi:'fleɪʃənəri, dɪ-‖-neri/ also **disinflationary**— *adj* (in ECONOMICS) producing deflation of money or prices: *deflationary policies|wage settlements*

de·flect /dɪ'flekt/ *v* [I;T (**from**)] to (cause to) turn from a straight course or fixed direction, esp. after hitting something: *The bullet deflected when it hit the tree. | One of their forwards deflected the ball into the goal. |* (fig.) *to deflect someone from their purpose |* (fig.) *a politician trying to deflect criticism by changing the subject*

de·flec·tion /dɪ'flekʃən/ *n* [C;U] **1** a turning aside; turning off course: *the deflection of the bullet by the tree* **2** (the amount of) a movement away from 0 by the pointer, needle, etc., of a measuring instrument: *a deflection of 30°*

de·flow·er /ˌdi:'flaʊəʳ, dɪ-/ *v* [T] *esp. lit* to have sex with (a woman who has not had sex before)

De·foe /dɪ'fəʊ/, **Daniel** (1660–1731) an English writer, whose most famous NOVELS are *Robinson Crusoe* and *Moll Flanders*

de·fog /di:'fɒg‖-'fɑ:g, -'fɔ:g/ *v* **-gg-** *AmE for* DEMIST

de·fo·li·ant /ˌdi:'fəʊliənt, dɪ-/ *n* [C;U] (a) chemical substance used on plants to make their leaves drop off early

de·fo·li·ate /ˌdi:'fəʊlieɪt, dɪ-/ *v* [T] to use defoliant on —**ation** /ˌfəʊli'eɪʃən/ *n* [U]

de·for·est /di:'fɒrəst‖-'fɔ:-, -'fɑ:-/ *v* [T] to clear (an area) of forest or trees: *More and more of the country is being deforested.*

de·for·es·ta·tion /di:ˌfɒrə'steɪʃən‖-ˌfɔ:-, -ˌfɑ:-/ *n* [U] the action of clearing an area of forest or trees: *The deforestation of South America is of worldwide concern.*

de·form /dɪ'fɔ:m‖-ɔ:rm/ *v* [T] to change the usual shape of (something), esp. so as to spoil its appearance or usefulness: *a face deformed by disease|anger | He was born with a severely deformed foot. | Heat deforms plastics.*

de·for·ma·tion /ˌdi:fɔ:'meɪʃən‖-ɔ:r-/ *n* **1** [U] the action of deforming or process of being deformed: *the deformation of a solid object by pressure* **2** [C;U] (a) change of shape, esp. for the worse

de·for·mi·ty /dɪ'fɔ:məti‖-ɔ:r-/ *n* [C;U] (an) imperfection of the body, esp. one that can be seen: *Lack of essential minerals can cause deformity in unborn children.*

de·fraud /dɪ'frɔ:d/ *v* [T (**of**)] to deceive so as to get or keep something wrongly and usu. not legally: *She defrauded her employers of thousands of dollars.*

de·fray /dɪ'freɪ/ *v* [T] *fml* to provide for the payment of; pay: *The company will defray the cost of the trip|all your expenses.*

de·frock /ˌdi:'frɒk‖-'frɑ:k/ also **unfrock**— *v* [T] to remove (a priest) from his position as a punishment for behaviour or beliefs that are disapproved of

de·frost /ˌdi:'frɒst‖-'frɔ:st/ *v* **1** [I;T] to remove ice from; unfreeze: *to defrost a refrigerator | Don't let the meat defrost too quickly.* **2** [T] *AmE for* DEMIST —~**er** *n*

deft /deft/ *adj* effortlessly skilful; ADROIT: *deft fingers | a deft performance* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

de·funct /dɪ'fʌŋkt/ *adj fml or humor* no longer living, existing, or having effect: *The scheme for building a new airport seems to be completely defunct now.*

de·fuse /ˌdi:'fju:z/ *v* [T] **1** to remove the FUSE[1] from (something explosive) in order to prevent an explosion: *to defuse a bomb* **2** to make less dangerous or harmful: *to defuse a dangerous situation*

de·fy /dɪ'faɪ/ *v* [T] **1** to show no fear of nor respect for; openly disobey; refuse to obey: *The child defied his parents and went to the cinema after school. | They defied their party leader and voted against his plan. |* (fig.) *The acrobat seemed to defy the law of gravity.* **2** [+*obj*+*to-v*] to ask (someone), very strongly, to do something considered impossible: *I defy you to produce any evidence that supports your claim.* **3** to make impossible or unsuccessful: *The untidiness of the room defies description. | The disease has so far defied all attempts to find a cure.*

De·gas /'deɪgɑ:‖də'gɑ:/, **Ed·gar** /'edgəʳ/ (1834–1917) a French Impressionist artist, famous particularly for his paintings of women dancing, of CAFE life, and of racing scenes

de Gaulle /də 'gəʊl‖-'gɔ:l/, **General Charles** (1890–1970) a French general and politician who is well-known for his determination to free his country from Nazi rule during the Second World War. He was the President of France between 1959 and 1969.

de·gen·e·rate[1] /dɪˈdʒenərɨt/ *adj* having become worse in character, quality, etc., in comparison with a former state: *a degenerate species* | *the last degenerate member of a noble family* —**racy** *n* [U]

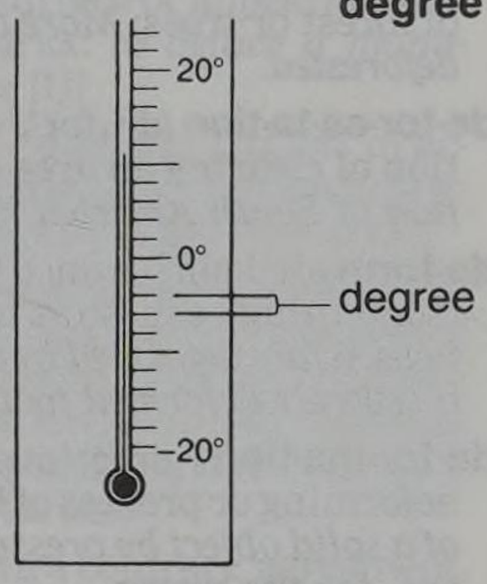
de·gen·e·rate[2] *n* a degenerate person, esp. one whose sexual behaviour is regarded as unacceptable

de·gen·e·rate[3] /dɪˈdʒenəreɪt/ *v* [I (**into**)] **1** to pass from a higher to a lower type or condition: *The wide paved road degenerated into a narrow bumpy track.* | *The argument soon degenerated into a brawl.* **2** to sink into a low state of mind or morals —**ration** /dɪˌdʒenəˈreɪʃən/ *n* [U] : *the degeneration of moral standards|of a bodily organ* —**rative** /dɪˈdʒenərətɪv/ *adj : a degenerative disease of the heart*

de·grade /dɪˈgreɪd/ *v* **1** [T] to cause to lose self-respect or the good opinion of other people; DEBASE: *It was very degrading to be punished in front of the whole class.* | *Don't degrade yourself by answering him.* **2** [I;T] *tech* to (cause to) change from a higher to a lower kind of living matter, or from a compound chemical to a simpler one —see also BIODEGRADABLE —**gradation** /ˌdegrəˈdeɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

de·gree /dɪˈgriː/ *n* **1** [C] *tech* any of various units of measure, esp. of temperature or angles: *Water freezes at 32 degrees Fahrenheit (32°F) or 0 degrees Celsius (0°C).* | *an angle of 90 degrees (90°)* | *The city lies at a latitude of 30 degrees North (30° N).* **2** [C;U] a point on an imaginary line used for measuring or comparing qualities, feelings, abilities, etc.: *The children have different degrees of ability.* | *To what degree can they be trusted?* | *They can be trusted to some|a certain degree.* | *They cannot be trusted in the slightest degree.* | *The minister expressed a degree of* (=a certain amount of) *optimism about the state of the economy.* | *She is getting better* **by degrees**, *but it will be some time before she is completely well.* **3** [C (**in**)] a title given by a university or certain colleges to a student who has completed a course of study successfully: *To do the job, you must have a degree in chemistry|a chemistry degree.*

degree



►CULTURAL NOTE 1 In England and Wales and in the US first degrees include a BA for arts subjects and a BSc *BrE*‖**BS** *AmE* for science and SOCIAL SCIENCE. Higher degrees include an MA or an MSc *BrE*‖**MS** *AmE* and a PhD. In Scotland degree courses last four years instead of three, and an MA or an MSc is a first degree. In the US one can also earn an AA degree for two years study in a JUNIOR COLLEGE, but this is a lower degree than a BA. 2 In Britain, students can GRADUATE[3] with an ordinary degree or an HONOURS DEGREE, which is better. The highest level of honours degree is called a **first** or a first class degree, and very few students get this. The next best level is called a **second** or a second class degree, and this is split into a higher level, called a **two-one**, and a lower level, a **two-two**. The lowest level is a **third** or a third class degree. In the US, very good students graduate **summa cum laude** or **magna cum laude**, or simply **cum laude**; the people who get these honours would be in about the top 10% of graduates.◄

4 [U] *old use* a rank in society: *a lady of high degree* **5 to a degree**: **a** partly; not very much: *I think that's true to a degree, but the situation is not quite so simple.* **b** very much indeed: *She's untidy to a degree – her papers are all over the floor!* —see also SECOND DEGREE, THIRD DEGREE

de Hav·il·land /də ˈhævɨlənd/, **O·liv·i·a** /əˈlɪviə/ (1916–) an American actress known for her beauty who made a lot of films and won two important prizes

de·hu·man·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /ˌdiːˈhjuːmənaɪz/ *v* [T] to remove the human qualities from: *The prisoners had been dehumanized by disease and ill treatment.* —**ization** /ˌdiːhjuːmənaɪˈzeɪʃən‖-mənə-/ *n* [U]

de·hy·drate /ˌdiːhaɪˈdreɪt‖diːˈhaɪdreɪt/ *v* **1** [T] to dry completely; remove all the water from: *to dehydrate milk to make milk powder* | *dehydrated vegetables* **2** [I] to lose water from the body: *People can very quickly dehydrate in the desert.* —**dration** /ˌdiːhaɪˈdreɪʃən/ *n* [U]

de-ice /ˌdiːˈaɪs/ *v* [T] to make free of ice; remove ice from

de·i·fy /ˈdiːɨfaɪ, ˈdeɪ-/ *v* [T] to make a god of; treat as an object of worship: *In some ancient societies kings were deified.* | (fig.) *to deify money* —**fication** /ˌdiːɨfɨˈkeɪʃən, ˈdeɪ-/ *n* [U]

Deigh·ton /ˈdeɪtn/, **Len** /len/ (1929–) an English THRILLER writer

deign /deɪn/ *v* [T+*to-v*;~~*obj*~~;*usu. in negatives*] *often derog* to think that something is worthy of one's attention: *The students sent their suggestions to the principal but he didn't even deign to reply.*

de·is·m /ˈdiːɪzəm, ˈdeɪ-/ *n* [U] the belief in a God whose existence can be proved by looking at the world he made rather than by considering some message he personally gave to humans —compare THEISM —**-ist** *n*

de·i·ty /ˈdiːɨti, ˈdeɪ-/ *n* a god or goddess: *the deities of ancient Greece*

Deity *n* [*the*] *fml* God

dé·jà vu /ˌdeɪʒɑː ˈvjuː, -ˈvuː/ *n* [U] *Fr* the feeling of remembering something that in fact one is experiencing for the first time: *As she stepped into the room she had a strong feeling|sense of déjà vu.*

de·jec·ted /dɪˈdʒektɨd/ *adj* having or showing low spirits; seeming sad or disappointed: *a dejected look|person* – ~**ly** *adv* —**-tion** /ˈdʒekʃən/ *n* [U]

de ju·re /ˌdiː ˈdʒʊəri, ˌdeɪ ˈdʒʊəreɪ/ *adj, adv Lat* by legal right, though not necessarily in fact: *the de jure ruler* – compare DE FACTO

dek·ko /ˈdekəʊ/ *n* **have a dekko (at)** *BrE sl* to have a look (at)

de Klerk /də ˈklɜːk‖-ˈklɜːrk/, **FW** (1936–) a South African politician and president since 1989. While he was in power the black leader Nelson Mandela came out of prison, after 27 years, and gradually many of the laws which had set up the system of APARTHEID (=the separation of blacks and whites) were officially ended.

de Koo·ning /də ˈkuːnɪŋ/, **Wil·lem** /ˈwɪləm/ (1904–) a Dutch-born American painter of ABSTRACTS[2]

De La Mare /də lɑː ˈmeəʳ/, **Wal·ter** /ˈwɔːltəʳ/ (1873–1956) an English writer remembered esp. for his poems

Del·a·ware /ˈdeləweəʳ/ *written abbrev.* **DE**– [*the*] a state in the eastern US. It was one of the 13 original colonies (COLONY). Except for Rhode Island, it is the smallest state. —see colour map on page 1374–5

de·lay[1] /dɪˈleɪ/ *v* **1** [T] to move to a later time; DEFER: *We decided to delay our holiday until next month.* | *The long-delayed meeting at last took place on Monday.* [+*v-ing*] *They delayed publishing the report until after the election.* **2** [T] to cause to be late: *Our plane was delayed by fog.* **3** [I] to move or take action slowly, esp. on purpose: *They're trying to delay until help arrives.* | *Don't delay: send off your application today!*

delay[2] *n* **1** [U] the act of delaying or the state of being delayed: *Do it without delay!* | *Incoming flights will be subject to delay because of the fog.* | *After much delay, the results of the exam were published.* **2** [C] an example of being delayed: *Heavy traffic is causing serious delays on all routes to the coast.* **3** [C] the time during which something or someone is delayed: *Delays of up to two hours were reported on all roads this morning.*

Del Boy /ˈdel bɔɪ/ the NICKNAME of **Derek Trotter**, a character in the British television programme *Only Fools and Horses* who sells things and is known for not being completely honest, but who is a cheerful, pleasant man

de·lec·ta·ble /dɪˈlektəbəl/ *adj* very pleasing; delightful: *What delectable food you cook!* —**-bly** *adv*

de·lec·ta·tion /ˌdiːlekˈteɪʃən/ *n* [U] *fml or humor* enjoyment, pleasure, or amusement

del·e·gate[1] /ˈdelɨgɨt/ *n* a person who has been elected or appointed to speak, vote, or take decisions for a group, such as a representative at a meeting: *She was our delegate at the party conference.*

del·e·gate[2] /ˈdelɨgeɪt/ *v* **1** [I;T (**to**)] to give (part of one's power, rights, etc.) to someone else for a certain time: *Part of the art of management is knowing when to delegate.* | *I have delegated my command to Captain Roberts.* **2** [T] to appoint as a representative or to do a

particular job: [+*obj*+*to-v*] *I've been delegated to organize the weekly meetings.*

del·e·ga·tion /ˌdelɨˈgeɪʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the act of delegating or the state of being delegated **2** [C+*sing./pl. v*] a group of delegates: *The French delegation is|are just arriving at the conference.*

de·lete /dɪˈliːt/ *v* [T (**from**)] to take, rub, or cut out (esp. written words): *Delete his name from the list of members.*

del·e·ter·i·ous /ˌdelɨˈtɪəriəs◂/ *adj fml* harmful to the mind or body; INJURIOUS: *the deleterious effects of being exposed to radiation* —~**ly** *adv*

de·le·tion /dɪˈliːʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the act of deleting or the state of being deleted **2** [C] a word, letter, etc. that has been deleted

Del·hi /ˈdeli/ an area and city in India. The city of Delhi was India's capital until 1857 —see also NEW DELHI

del·i /ˈdeli/ *infml abbrev. for:* DELICATESSEN

de·lib·e·rate[1] /dɪˈlɪbərɨt/ *adj* **1** (esp. of something bad) done on purpose or as a result of careful planning; intentional: *The car crash wasn't an accident; it was a deliberate attempt to kill him!* | *a deliberate insult* **2** (of speech, thought, or movement) slow; unhurried: *The old man stood up in a very deliberate way and left the room.* —~**ly** *adv*: *She deliberately ignored me when I passed her in the street.* —~**ness** *n* [U]

de·lib·e·rate[2] /dɪˈlɪbəreɪt/ *v* [I (**on, upon, about**);T] *fml* to consider carefully, often in formal meetings with other people: *The cabinet are still deliberating (the question).* [+*wh-*] *The committee deliberated whether to approve our proposal.*

de·lib·e·ra·tion /dɪˌlɪbəˈreɪʃən/ *n fml* **1** [C *often pl.*;U] careful consideration; thorough examination of a matter: *After much deliberation, we found that nothing could be done.* | *Our deliberations failed to produce a decision.* **2** [U] the quality of being slow and unhurried in speech, thought, or movement

de·lib·e·ra·tive /dɪˈlɪbərətɪv‖-bəreɪtɪv/ *adj* for the purpose of deliberating: *Parliament is a deliberative assembly.*

del·i·ca·cy /ˈdelɪkəsi/ *n* **1** [U] the quality of being delicate **2** [C] something good to eat that is considered rare or expensive: *Caviar is a great delicacy.*

del·i·cate /ˈdelɪkɨt/ *adj* **1** needing careful handling, esp. because easily broken or damaged; FRAGILE: *Be careful with those wine glasses – they're very delicate.* **2** easily made ill: *a very delicate child* **3** finely made in a way that shows great skill: *a delicate piece of workmanship* **4** needing careful or sensitive treatment in order to avoid failure or trouble: *a delicate situation|subject* | *The negotiations are at a very delicate stage.* **5** (of a taste, smell, etc.) pleasing but not strong and perhaps not easy to recognize: *a delicate flavour|smell* **6** quick to show or feel the effect or presence of something; sensitive: *a delicate instrument that can record even very slight changes in the temperature* —see also INDELICATE —~**ly** *adv*

del·i·cates /ˈdelɪkɨts/ *n* [P] clothes which are made from delicate materials and must be washed gently

del·i·ca·tes·sen /ˌdelɪkəˈtesən/ *n* a shop that sells unusual and often expensive foods, esp. foods that are cooked and ready to eat. In the US, many delicatessens also sell sandwiches (SANDWICH[1]) and some have tables at which to eat. Many delicatessens also sell only KOSHER food: *I bought some salami from the delicatessen.*

de·li·cious /dɪˈlɪʃəs/ *adj* **1** pleasing to the senses of taste or smell: *What a delicious apple!* | *a delicious smell of cooking* | *Thank you for a delicious meal, Mrs Atkins.* **2** giving great pleasure or amusement; delightful: *a delicious joke* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

de·light[1] /dɪˈlaɪt/ *n* **1** [U] a great pleasure and satisfaction; joy: *I read your new book with real delight.* | *She* **takes delight in** (=enjoys) *teasing her sister.* **2** [C] something or someone that gives great pleasure: *Your new book|little dog is a real delight!* | *to savour* (=enjoy) *the delights of London's night life* —see also TURKISH DELIGHT

delight[2] *v* [T] to cause (someone) great satisfaction, enjoyment, or joy: *a book that is certain to delight* | *She delighted the audience with her jokes about the president.*

delight in sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] to take great pleasure in (esp. something unpleasant): *He delights in scandal.* [+*v-ing*] *They seem to delight in keeping everyone else waiting.*

de·light·ed /dɪˈlaɪtɨd/ *adj* [(**by, with**)] very pleased or satisfied: *We were delighted by|with the response to our advertisement.* [F+*to-v*] *Thanks for your invitation – I'd be delighted to come!* [F (*that*)] *We're delighted that you'll be able to come.*

de·light·ful /dɪˈlaɪtfəl/ *adj* very pleasing: *a delightful holiday|child|little house* —~**ly** *adv*

De·li·lah /dɨˈlaɪlə/ a woman in the Bible who persuaded Samson to tell her his secret, that his hair was the origin of his strength. She then had it cut it off to weaken him.

de·lim·it /dɪˈlɪmɨt/ *v* [T] *fml* to fix the limits of: *to delimit the powers of various officials* —~**ation** /dɪˌlɪmɨˈteɪʃən/ *n* [U]

de·lin·e·ate /dɪˈlɪnieɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to show by drawing or describing —**-ation** /dɪˌlɪniˈeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

de·lin·quen·cy /dɪˈlɪŋkwənsi/ *n* **1** [U] behaviour, esp. by young people, that is not in accordance with accepted social standards or with the law. Acts of delinquency would include fighting, damaging property, stealing cars for a short time for pleasure, and writing on walls in public places. **2** [C] *fml* an offence against the law or accepted social standards

de·lin·quent[1] /dɪˈlɪŋkwənt/ *adj* **1** having broken a law, esp. one which is not very serious; having a tendency to break the law or to do socially unacceptable things: *delinquent youths|behaviour* **2** *tech* (of debts, accounts, etc.) not having been paid in time

delinquent[2] *n* a person, esp. a young person, who is delinquent: *a juvenile* (=young) *delinquent*

del·i·ques·cent /ˌdelɨˈkwesənt◂/ *adj fml or tech* taking up water from the air and so becoming liquid, as salt does in wet weather —**-cence** *n* [U]

de·lir·i·ous /dɪˈlɪəriəs/ *adj* in an excited dreamy state, esp. caused by illness: *During the fever he became delirious and said some strange things.* | *delirious with joy* —~**ly** *adv*: *deliriously happy*

de·lir·i·um /dɪˈlɪəriəm/ *n* **1** [C;U] an excited dreamy state in serious illness **2** [S] a very excited state: *a delirium of joy* —see also DELIRIOUS

delirium tre·mens /dɪˌlɪəriəm ˈtremənz‖-ˈtriː-/ *n* [U] *fml for* D T'S

De·li·us /ˈdiːliəs/, **Fred·e·rick** /ˈfredərɪk/ (1862–1934) an English COMPOSER (=writer) of classical music, known for his works for both voices and instruments

de·liv·er /dɪˈlɪvəʳ/ *v* **1** [I;T (**to**)] to take (goods, letters, etc.) to people's houses or places of work: *Letters are delivered every day.* | *Yes, we deliver newspapers.* | *Will you deliver, or do I have to come to the shop to collect the goods?* **2** [T+*obj*+*prep*] to send or aim (a blow, kick, etc.) to the intended place: *She delivered a hard kick to his knee.* **3** [T] to speak or read aloud to people listening: *to deliver a lecture|a speech* **4** [T] **a** to help in the birth of: *The doctor delivered her baby.* **b** to help in giving birth: *The doctor delivered the woman (of twin boys).* **5** [T (**from**)] *fml* to set free; RESCUE: *They prayed to God to deliver them from danger.* **6** [I (**on**);T] to fulfil (a promise or hope) or produce (something promised or hoped for): *Do you think the government will deliver on their election promises|deliver the promised tax cuts?* **7** [T] *esp. AmE* to bring (votes, influence, etc.) to the support of a political movement, a person trying to get elected, etc.: *The Democrats are hoping she will deliver the black vote.* (=persuade black people to vote for them) **8 deliver the goods** *sl* to DELIVER (6) —see also **stand and deliver** (STAND[1] (21)) —~**er** *n*

deliver sthg. **to** sbdy. *phr v* [T (UP) *often pass.*] to put into (someone else's) possession: *The town was delivered (up) to the enemy.*

de·liv·er·ance /dɪˈlɪvərəns/ *n* [U (**from**)] *fml* the act of saving from harm or danger, or the state of being saved: *deliverance from slavery*

de·liv·er·y /dɪˈlɪvəri/ *n* **1** [C;U (**to**)] the act of taking or giving something to someone, or the things taken or given: *The next postal delivery is at 2 o'clock.* | *The company has just* **taken delivery of** (=received) *a new computer system.* | *a delivery van* **2** [C] the birth of a child: *The mother had an easy delivery.* **3** [C;U] the manner or style of speaking in public: *a good|fast|slow delivery* **4** [C] (in cricket) an act or style of throwing a ball: *He was*

eventually bowled by an excellent delivery from Frazer.

de·liv·er·y·man /dɪˈlɪvərimən/ *n* **-men** /mən/ a man who delivers goods to people who have bought or ordered them, usu. locally

delivery note /·ˈ··· ·/ *n tech* a document sent with goods to show that they have been delivered

delivery room /·ˈ··· ·/ *n* a room in a hospital in which women give birth

dell /del/ *n lit* a small valley with grass and trees

De·loitte /dəˈlɔɪt/ a British ACCOUNTANCY firm, now joined with another company to form Coopers and Lybrand Deloitte

De·lors /dəˈlɔːr/, **Jacques** /ʒæk‖ʒɑːk/ (1925–) a French politician and the president of the European Commission

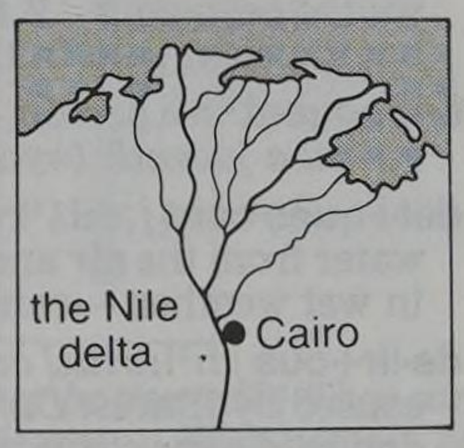
de·louse /ˌdiːˈlaʊs/ *v* [T] to remove LICE (*pl. of* LOUSE) or similar creatures from (a person, clothes, etc.)

Del·phic or·a·cle /ˌdelfɪk ˈɒrəkəl ‖ -ˈɔː-, -ˈɑː-/ [*the*] the temple in the town of Delphi in ancient Greece where a priestess answered questions with words thought to be from the god Apollo.

del·phin·i·um /delˈfɪniəm/ also **larkspur**– *n* an upright branching plant with usu. blue flowers growing all the way up its long stems

del·ta /ˈdeltə/ *n* **1** the fourth letter (Δ, δ) of the Greek alphabet **2** an area of low land shaped like a Δ where a river divides into branches towards the sea: *the Nile Delta in Egypt*

delta



Delta Force /ˈ·· ˌ·/ an American military group which is mainly responsible for rescue operations and special forces work –compare SAS

de·lude /dɪˈluːd/ *v* [T (**into**)] to mislead the mind or judgment of; deceive: *You're just deluding yourself if you think she still loves you.* | *He deluded everyone into following him.* –see also DELUSION

del·uge[1] /ˈdeljuːdʒ/ *n* a great flood or a very heavy rain: (fig.) *a deluge of questions*

deluge[2] *v* [T] **1** *fml* to cover with a great flood of water **2** [(**with**) *usu. pass.*] to cover or fill with a great flood of things; INUNDATE: *The minister was completely deluged with questions|insults.*

de·lu·sion /dɪˈluːʒən/ *n* **1** [U] the act of deluding or the state of being deluded **2** [C] a false belief, esp. if strongly held: *to suffer from* **delusions of grandeur** (=the belief that one is extremely important, powerful, etc.) [+*that*] *He is* **under the delusion** *that he is Napoleon.* –see ILLUSION (USAGE)

de·lu·sive /dɪˈluːsɪv/ also **de·lu·so·ry** /-səri/– *adj* likely to delude; misleading: *a delusive act|belief* – ~**ly** *adv*

de luxe also **deluxe** /dəˈlʌks‖-ˈlʊks/ *adj* of especially high quality: *The car's price is very reasonable; of course, the de luxe model costs a lot more.*

delve /delv/ *v* [I] **1** [(**into**)] to search deeply: *He delved into the family archives looking for the facts.* **2** *poet or old use* to dig

Dem /dem/ *abbrev for:* **a** Democrat **b** Democratic

de·mag·ne·tize also **-tise** *BrE* /ˌdiːˈmægnətaɪz/ *v* [T] **1** to take away the MAGNETIC qualities of **2** *tech* to remove sounds from (a MAGNETIC TAPE) –**-tization** /ˌdiːmægnətaɪˈzeɪʃən‖-nətə-/ *n* [U]

dem·a·gogue also **-gog** *AmE* /ˈdeməgɒg‖-gɑːg/ *n derog* a leader who tries to gain, or has gained, power by exciting people's feelings rather than by reasoned argument –**-gogic** /ˌdemәˈgɒgɪk◂‖-ˈgɑː-/ *adj* –**-gogically** /kli/ *adv* –**-goguery** /ˈdemegɒgəri ‖ -gɑːg-/ *n* [U]

de·mand[1] /dɪˈmɑːnd‖dɪˈmænd/ *n* **1** [C (**for**)] an act of demanding; claim: *The management has refused to agree to our demand for a 6% pay rise.* | *This work* **makes great demands on** *my time.* (=takes up a lot of my time) | *Do you think they will give in to the terrorists' demands?* – see REQUEST[2] (USAGE) **2** [S;U (**for**)] the desire of people for particular goods or services; the ability and willingness of people to pay for them: *There's not much demand for houses of this sort.* | *These developments have created a great demand for home computers.* | *Her books are in great demand at the moment.* –see also SUPPLY AND DEMAND

demand[2] *v* [T] **1** to ask for firmly and not be willing to accept a refusal; claim as if by right: *I demand an apology|an explanation!* [+*to-v*] *She demanded to speak to the manager.* [+*that*] *The opposition have demanded that all the facts (should) be made public.* **2** to need urgently: *This work demands your immediate attention.* **3** [(**of**)] to need (effort, hard work, etc.) in order to be successful; REQUIRE: *Work of this nature demands many personal sacrifices|demands a great deal of those who embark on it.*

de·mand·ing /dɪˈmɑːndɪŋ‖dɪˈmæn-/ *adj* needing a lot of attention and effort: *A new baby and a new job can be equally demanding.*

demand-side /·ˈ· ·/ *adj* [A] of or being an economic POLICY that places a lot of importance on DEMAND[1] (2) and using things up –compare SUPPLY-SIDE

de·mar·cate /ˈdiːmɑːkeɪt‖dɪˈmɑːr-/ *v* [T] to mark the limits of: *to demarcate a frontier*

de·mar·ca·tion /ˌdiːmɑːˈkeɪʃən‖-ɑːr-/ *n* [U] limitation; separation: *a row of trees on the line of demarcation between the two pieces of land*

demarcation dis·pute /ˌ··ˈ·· ·ˌ·/ *n* a disagreement between different trade unions about which jobs should be done by the members of each union

de·mean /dɪˈmiːn/ *v* [T] *fml* to cause (oneself) to lose one's sense of personal pride: *Don't demean yourself by answering him.* | *It was very demeaning to have to ask his permission for everything I wanted to do.*

de·mea·nour *BrE*‖**-nor** *AmE* /dɪˈmiːnəʳ/ *n fml* behaviour towards others; outward manner: *She has a cheerful and friendly demeanour.*

de·men·ted /dɪˈmentɨd/ *adj* mad; of unbalanced mind – ~**ly** *adv*

de·men·tia /dɪˈmenʃə, -ʃiə‖-tʃə/ *n* [U] *tech* decay of the mind, esp. leading to madness. ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE is a well-known cause of dementia.

dem·e·ra·ra sug·ar /ˌdemәreәrə ˈʃʊgəʳ/ *n* [U] rough brown sugar, usu. from the West Indies

de·mer·it /diːˈmerɨt/ *n fml* **1** a fault; bad quality: *We discussed the merits and demerits of her research proposal.* –compare MERIT[1] **2** *AmE* a mark against someone for something wrong they have done, esp. at school: *The teacher gave him three demerits and extra homework for coming in late.*

de·mesne /dɪˈmeɪn/ *n fml or law* the land round a great house; land owned by and for the use of a lord or king

dem·i·god /ˈdemigɒd‖-gɑːd/ **dem·i·god·dess** /-dɨs/*fem.*– *n* (in ancient stories) someone greater than a human but less than a god

dem·i·john /ˈdemidʒɒn‖-dʒɑːn/ *n* a large narrow-necked bottle, often with small handles, holding from about 5 to 45 litres

de·mil·i·ta·rize also **-rise** *BrE* /ˌdiːˈmɪlɨtəraɪz/ *v* [T] to take away the military character of; prevent (esp. a border area) from being used for military purposes: *a demilitarized zone* –**-rization** /ˌdiːmɪlɨtəraɪˈzeɪʃən‖-tərə-/ *n* [U]

De Mille /dəˈmɪl/, **Ag·nes** /ˈægnɨs/ (1908–) an American dancer and CHOREOGRAPHER who planned the dances for several Broadway musicals e.g. *Oklahoma!*, as well as for some BALLETS

De Mille, Cec·il B. /ˈsesɨl biː/ (1881–1959) an American film producer and director. Cecil B. De Mille helped to form the popular image of a film director as someone who uses a MEGAPHONE and makes actors do exactly as he wants: *a Cecil B. De Mille epic with a cast of thousands*

de·mise /dɪˈmaɪz/ *n* [U] *law or euph* death: *Upon his demise the title will pass to his son.* | (fig.) *the demise of a famous newspaper*

de·mist /ˌdiːˈmɪst/ *BrE*‖**defog, defrost** *AmE*– *v* [T] to remove steam from (the windows of a car) by means of heat or warm air – ~**er** *n*

dem·o /ˈdeməʊ/ *n* **demos** *infml* **1** *abbrev. for* DEMONSTRATION **2** *AmE* a recording sent to record companies in order to show the skill of a new singer or music group: *They receive dozens of demo tapes every week.*

de·mob[1] /diːˈmɒb‖-ˈmɑːb/ *v* **-bb-** [T] *BrE infml* to demobilize

demob[2] *n* [U] *BrE infml* demobilization

de·mo·bi·lize also **-lise** *BrE* /diːˈməʊbəlaɪz/ [I;T *often pass.*] *fml* to send home the members of (an armed force), usu. at the end of a war; allow to leave military service —see also MOBILIZE (2) —**-lization** /dɪˌməʊbəlaɪˈzeɪʃən‖-bələ-/ *n* [U]

de·moc·ra·cy /dɪˈmɒkrəsi‖dɪˈmɑː-/ *n* **1** [U] government by the people, or by elected representatives of the people. Democracy was first developed in Ancient Greece: *The military government promised to restore democracy within one year.* —compare ARISTOCRACY (3) **2** [C] a country governed by its people or their representatives **3** [U] social equality and the right to take part in decision-making: *industrial democracy*

dem·o·crat /ˈdeməkræt/ *n* a person who believes in or works for democracy

Democrat *n* **1** a member or supporter of the Democratic Party of the US —compare REPUBLICAN **2** (in Britain) *infml for* a LIBERAL DEMOCRAT

dem·o·crat·ic /ˌdeməˈkrætɪk◂/ *adj* **1** of or favouring democracy: *democratic ideals | a democratic country* **2** believing in or practising the principle of equality: *The company is run on democratic lines, and all the staff are involved in making decisions.* —opposite **undemocratic** —**~ally** /kli/ *adv* : *the democratically-elected government*

Democratic *adj* of or supporting the DEMOCRATIC PARTY —compare REPUBLICAN[1]

Democratic Par·ty /··ˈ·· ˌ··/, **the** one of the two main political parties of the US, also known as **the Democrats**. The Democratic Party's policies (POLICY) are more LIBERAL[1] (2) than those of the Republican Party —compare REPUBLICAN PARTY

de·moc·ra·tize also *BrE* **-tise** /dɪˈmɒkrətaɪz‖dɪˈmɑː-/ *v* [T] to make democratic or more democratic: *to democratize the union's decision-making processes* —**-tization** /dɪˌmɒkrətaɪˈzeɪʃən‖dɪˌmɑːkrətə-/ *n* [U]

dé·mo·dé /ˌdeɪˈməʊdeɪ‖ˌdeɪməʊˈdeɪ/ *adj* no longer in fashion: *démodé clothes|ideas*

de·mog·ra·phy /dɪˈmɒgrəfi‖-ˈmɑː-/ *n* [U] the statistical (STATISTICS) study of human population —**-pher** *n* —**-phic** /ˌdeməˈgræfɪk◂, ˌdiː-/ *adj* : *changing demographic trends*

de·mol·ish /dɪˈmɒlɪʃ‖dɪˈmɑː-/ *v* [T] **1** to destroy (esp. a large structure); pull or tear down: *They're going to demolish that old factory.* | (fig.) *We've demolished all her arguments.* **2** *infml* to eat up hungrily: *to demolish two big platefuls of chicken*

dem·o·li·tion /ˌdeməˈlɪʃən◂/ *n* [C;U] (an example of) the act of demolishing

demolition der·by /ˌ···· ˈ··/ *n AmE* a kind of car race in which the drivers try to hit other cars to knock them out of the competition

de·mon /ˈdiːmən/ *n* **1** an evil spirit: (fig.) *That child is a little demon.* **2** *infml* a person with unusual strength, skill, etc.: *a demon for work | a demon card-player* —compare DAEMON

de·mon·e·tize also **-tise** *BrE* /diːˈmʌnətaɪz‖diːˈmɑː-/ *v* [T] to stop using (esp. a coin or note) as a standard of money

de·mo·ni·a·cal /ˌdiːməˈnaɪəkəl◂/ also **de·mon·ni·ac** /dɪˈməʊniæk/— *adj* of or like a demon: *demoniacal cruelty* —**~ly** /kli/ *adv*

de·mon·ic /dɪˈmɒnɪk‖dɪˈmɑː-/ *adj* by a demon or being a demon: *demonic possession* (=being controlled by an evil spirit) | *a demonic spirit* —**~ally** /kli/ *adv*

de·mon·stra·ble /dɪˈmɒnstrəbəl, ˈdemən-‖dɪˈmɑːn-/ *adj fml* that can be clearly proved or shown to be true: *a demonstrable fact* —**-bly** *adv* : *But that idea is demonstrably false!* —**-bility** /dɪˌmɒnstrəˈbɪlətiː‖dɪˌmɑːn-/ *n* [U]

dem·on·strate /ˈdemənstreɪt/ *v* **1** [T] to prove or make clear (a fact), esp. by reasoning or providing examples: *His last remark demonstrates his total ignorance of the subject.* [+*that*] *Galileo demonstrated that objects of different weights fall at the same speed.* **2** [T] to show or describe clearly: *The first-aid instructor demonstrated the correct way to bandage a wound.* [+*wh-*] *I will now demonstrate how the machine works.* **3** [T] to show the value or use of (esp. a machine), esp. to a possible buyer: *to demonstrate a new kitchen gadget* **4** [I (**against**)] to take part in a public show of strong feeling or opinion, often with marching, big signs, etc.: *They demonstrated against the government's nuclear policy.* —see also DEMONSTRATOR

dem·on·stra·tion /ˌdemənˈstreɪʃən/ also **demo** *infml*— *n* **1** [C;U] an act of showing or proving something: *She gave us a demonstration of the machine to show how it worked.* | *Can I have a demonstration of what it does?* **2** [C] a public show of strong feeling or opinion, often with marching, big signs, etc. Many people connect demonstrations with students, esp. LEFT-WING students. There were a lot of demonstrations during the 1960s, some of them violent: *to hold|stage a demonstration against cuts in welfare spending | We're going on|taking part in a CND demonstration this afternoon. | Police used tear gas to break up the demonstration.* —compare RALLY[2] (1)

de·mon·stra·tive /dɪˈmɒnstrətɪv‖dɪˈmɑːn-/ *adj* **1** showing feelings openly: *He's not very demonstrative.* —opposite **undemonstrative** **2** [(**of**)] *fml* showing or proving something: *The report is demonstrative of the government's concern about this matter.* —**~ly** *adv*

demonstrative pro·noun /·ˌ··· ˈ··/ also **demonstrative**— *n tech* a PRONOUN that points out the person or thing that is meant and separates it from others: *"This", "that", "these", and "those" are all demonstrative pronouns.*

dem·on·stra·tor /ˈdemənstreɪtəʳ/ *n* **1** a person who takes part in a public demonstration: *The demonstrators claim they were attacked by the police.* **2** a person who demonstrates something **3** (esp. in British universities) a person who helps science students with their practical work

de·mor·al·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /dɪˈmɒrəlaɪz‖dɪˈmɔː-, dɪˈmɑː-/ [T] to lessen or destroy the courage and confidence of: *After months of inactivity, the army was completely demoralized.* | *a series of demoralizing failures* —**-ization** /dɪˌmɒrəlaɪˈzeɪʃən‖dɪˌmɔːrələ-, dɪˌmɑː-/ *n* [U]

de·mote /dɪˈməʊt/ *v* [T] to lower in rank or position —opposite **promote** —**-motion** /dɪˈməʊʃən/ *n* [C;U]

de·mot·ic /dɪˈmɒtɪk‖dɪˈmɑː-/ *adj fml* (of a form of language, esp. Modern Greek) used by the ordinary people

de·mo·ti·vate /diːˈməʊtəveɪt/ *v* [T] to take away from (a person) their eagerness to do their job or the satisfaction they get from doing their job —**-vation** /ˌdiːməʊtəˈveɪʃən/ *n* [U]

Demp·sey /ˈdempsi/, **Jack** (1895–1983) a famous American BOXER who held the HEAVYWEIGHT title from 1919 to 1926

de·mur[1] /dɪˈmɜːʳ/ *v* **-rr-** [I (**at**)] *fml* to make clear, by words or actions, one's opposition to or disapproval of a plan, suggestion, etc.: *They demurred at the idea of working on Sunday.*

demur[2] *n* **without demur** *fml* with no sign of disagreement or disapproval

de·mure /dɪˈmjʊəʳ/ *adj* **1** (esp. of a woman or child) quiet, serious, and not trying to draw attention to oneself: *a demure young lady* **2** pretending to be like this —**~ly** *adv* —**~ness** *n* [U]

de·mys·ti·fy /ˌdiːˈmɪstəfaɪ/ *v* [T] to make (something) less mysterious or less difficult to understand: *a book attempting to demystify the whole subject of computers.* —**-fication** /ˌdiːmɪstəfəˈkeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

den /den/ *n* **1** the home of a usu. large fierce wild animal, such as a lion **2** a centre of secret, esp. illegal, activity: *a den of thieves | an opium den | a den of iniquity* **3** *infml* a small comfortable quiet room in a house, where a person, usu. a man, can be alone: *Father's in his den.* **4** *AmE* a group of CUB SCOUTS

De·na·li /dəˈnɑːli/ a mountain in **Denali National Park** in central Alaska which is the highest point in North America. It was formerly called Mount McKinley.

de·na·tion·al·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /diːˈnæʃənəlaɪz/ *v* [T] to remove from state ownership; PRIVATIZE —**-ization** /ˌdiːnæʃənəlaɪˈzeɪʃən‖-nələ-/ *n* [C;U]

Dench /dentʃ/, **Dame Ju·di** /ˈdzuːdi/ (1934–) one of Britain's finest classical actresses in the theatre, the cinema, and on television

den·gue fe·ver /ˈdeŋgi ˌfiːvəʳ/ *n* [U] a serious infectious illness which is carried by mosquitoes (MOSQUITO) in hot countries

Deng Xiao·ping /ˌdʌŋ ˌʃaʊˈpɪŋ/ (1904–) a Chinese Communist leader who has been in and out of power but has had great influence in important positions since the late 1970s

de·ni·al /dɪ'naɪəl/ *n* [C;U] **1** the act or an example of saying that something is not true; act of denying (DENY): *The government has issued a firm denial of this rumour.* **2** the act or an example of refusing to give or do something: *a denial of justice*

de·ni·er[1] /dɪ'naɪəʳ/ *n* a person who denies (DENY) something

den·i·er[2] /'deniəʳ/ *n* a measure of the fineness of the threads of silk, nylon, etc. Lower numbers mean finer threads: *15-denier tights*

den·i·grate /'denɨgreɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to declare to be not very good or not important; DISPARAGE —**-gration** /ˌdenɨ'greɪʃən/ *n* [U]

den·im /'denɨm/ *n* [U] a strong cotton cloth used esp. for making JEANS

den·ims /'denɨmz/ *n* [P] trousers made of denim; JEANS: *a pair of blue denims*

De Ni·ro /də 'nɪərəʊ/, **Rob·ert** /'rɒbət‖'rɑːbərt/ (1945–) an American actor known esp. for his parts in the films *Taxi Driver* and *The Deer Hunter* —see colour picture on page 228

den·i·zen /'denɨzən/ *n* [(**of**)] *lit or humor* an animal, plant, or person, that lives or is found in a particular place: *denizens of the deep* (=sea creatures)

Den·mark /'denmɑːk‖-mɑːrk/ a small country in northern Europe bordering on Germany and surrounded on three sides by the sea; capital Copenhagen; population 5,132,000 (1989) —see also DANISH

den moth·er /'· ˌ··/ *n AmE* a woman who leads a group of CUB SCOUTS

Den·ning /'denɪŋ/, **Lord** (1899–) an English judge who held some of the highest legal positions, for 20 years being Master of the Rolls. He was in charge of many important cases, and has often given judgments or opinions which have caused a lot of public argument or disagreement.

Den·nis the Men·ace /ˌdenɨs ðə 'menɨs/ *n* a character from the British COMIC *The Beano*. He is a little boy with untidy hair, a red and black STRIPED jumper, and a wicked GRIN who is always getting into trouble: *They look so cheeky – like a trio of Dennis the Menaces. And at bedtime Jimmy, Ben, and Tommy Carpenter certainly live up to their image.*

de·nom·i·nate /dɪ'nɒmɨneɪt‖dɪ'nɑː-/ *v* [T+*obj*+*n*] *fml or pomp* to give a name to; call; DESIGNATE

de·nom·i·na·tion /dɪˌnɒmɨ'neɪʃən‖dɪˌnɑː-/ *n* **1** a religious group that is part of a larger religious body: *The service was attended by Christians of all denominations.* **2** a standard of value: *coins of many denominations|of low denominations* **3** *fml* a name, esp. for a class or type

de·nom·i·na·tion·al /dɪˌnɒmɨ'neɪʃənəl‖dɪˌnɑː-/ *adj* of, controlled by, or being a religious denomination: *a denominational school* —see also INTERDENOMINATIONAL

de·nom·i·na·tor /dɪ'nɒmɨneɪtəʳ‖dɪ'nɑː-/ *n* the number below the line in a FRACTION: *4 is the denominator in ¼.* —compare NUMERATOR; see also COMMON DENOMINATOR

de·no·ta·tion /ˌdiːnəʊ'teɪʃən/ *n esp. tech* the thing that is actually named or described by a word, rather than the feelings or ideas that are suggested by the word — compare CONNOTATION —**-tive** /dɪ'nəʊtətɪv‖'diːnəʊteɪtɪv, dɪ'nəʊtə-/ *adj*

de·note /dɪ'nəʊt/ *v* [T] **1** to be a name of; mean: *The word "lion" denotes a certain kind of wild animal.* **2** to be a mark or sign of: *A smile often denotes pleasure.* [+*that*] *The sign "=" denotes that two things are equal.* —compare CONNOTE

de·noue·ment /deɪ'nuːmɒŋ‖ˌdeɪnuː'mɑːŋ/ *n* the end of a story when everything is explained

de·nounce /dɪ'naʊns/ *v* [T (**as**)] to express strong disapproval of, esp. publicly; CONDEMN: *The minister's action was denounced in all the newspapers.* | *She was denounced as a traitor.*

dense /dens/ *adj* **1** closely packed or crowded together: *a dense crowd* | *dense trees|traffic* **2** difficult to see through: *a dense mist* **3** stupid; slow to understand: *One or two of the students are a bit dense.* — **~ly** *adv*: *a densely populated area* — **~ness** *n* [U]

den·si·ty /'densɨti/ *n* **1** [U] **a** the quality of being DENSE (1,2): *the density of the crowd|of the mist* **b** the degree to which a space or area is filled: *population density* | *low-density housing* (=a small number of houses in a large area) **2** [C;U] *tech* the relation of the amount of matter (the mass) to the space into which the matter is packed (its VOLUME (2)): *the density of a gas* **3** [C;U] *tech* the amount of information that can be stored per unit of space on a MAGNETIC TAPE or DISK: *Are these high- or low-density disks?* | *The density of this tape is 6250 bpi.* (=bits per inch)

dent[1] /dent/ *n* a small hollow place in the surface of something man-made, which is the result of pressure or of being hit: *a dent in the side of my car* | (fig.) *The holiday has made a big dent in our savings.*

dent[2] *v* [T] to make a dent in: *I'm afraid I've dented the car.*

den·tal[1] /'dentl/ *adj* of or related to the teeth: *dental decay*

dental[2] *n, adj tech* (a speech sound) made by putting the end of the tongue against the upper front teeth

dental floss /ˌ·· '·/ *n* [U] a type of thread usu. covered in WAX and used for cleaning between the teeth

dental hy·gie·nist /ˌ·· '···, ˌ·· ·'··/ *n* a HYGIENIST

dental plate /ˌ·· '·/ *n* a PLATE[1] (5a)

dental sur·geon /ˌ·· '··/ ‖ usu. **oral surgeon** *AmE– n fml* a dentist

den·tine /'dentiːn/ *BrE* ‖ **den·tin** /'dentɪn/*AmE– n* [U] a hard substance that forms the main part of the tooth — see picture at TEETH

den·tist /'dentɨst/ *n* a person who has been professionally trained to treat the teeth. In Britain and the US, people usu. go to see their dentist every six months when they are children (and in Britain this is paid for by the state), although often they go less frequently as adults. Many people, esp. older people, connect the dentist's with pain, and some actually fear going there: *I have to go to the dentist|to the dentist's this morning.* —compare ORAL SURGEON; —see also DENTAL[1], ORTHODONTIST

den·tis·try /'dentɨstri/ *n* [U] the work of a dentist

den·ture /'dentʃəʳ/ *n fml* a PLATE[1] (5b) into which false teeth are fixed

den·tures /'dentʃəz‖-ərz/ *n* [P] FALSE TEETH

de·nude /dɪ'njuːd‖dɪ'nuːd/ *v* [T (**of**)] *fml* to completely remove the (natural) protective covering from: *Wind and rain had denuded the mountainside of soil.*

de·nun·ci·a·tion /dɪˌnʌnsi'eɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] (an example of) the act of denouncing (DENOUNCE): *The President issued a tough denunciation of terrorism.*

Den·ver /'denvəʳ/ the capital city of Colorado, a mountainous state of the US. It is called the **Mile-High City** because it is one mile above sea level. —see colour map on page 1374–5

Denver, John (1943–) an American singer and writer of popular music. His many famous songs include *Annie's song* and *Rocky Mountain High.*

Denver boot /ˌ·· '·/ *n infml for* WHEEL CLAMP

de·ny /dɪ'naɪ/ *v* [T] **1** to declare untrue; refuse to accept as a fact: *The minister has strenuously denied these allegations.* | *She denies any involvement in the robbery.* [+*v-ing|that*] *The accused man denies ever having met her|denies that he has ever met her.* [+*obj*+*to-v*] *(fml) Do you deny this to be your writing?* | **There's no denying that** (=it's very clear that) *this will be a serious blow to the government.* —compare AFFIRM, ADMIT **2** to refuse to give or allow: *Permission to enter was denied.* [+*obj(i)*+*obj(d)*] *I was denied the chance of going to university when my parents' business collapsed and they lost everything they owned.* **3** to refuse to allow (oneself) too much pleasure: *We denied ourselves for years, until we'd finished paying for the house.* **4** *fml* to disclaim connection with or responsibility for; DISOWN: *He has denied his country and his principles!* —see also DENIAL, DENIER[1]

de·o·do·rant /diː'əʊdərənt/ *n* [C;U] a chemical substance that destroys or hides unpleasant smells, esp. those of the human body: *a roll-on deodorant* —compare ANTIPERSPIRANT

de·o·do·rize also **-rise** *BrE* /diː'əʊdəraɪz/ *v* [T] to remove or hide the unpleasant smell of

dep *written abbrev. for:* **a** DEPART **b** DEPARTURE —compare ARR (2)

de·part /dɪ'pɑːt‖-ɑːrt/ *v* **1** [I (**from**)] *fml or lit* to leave; go away, esp. when starting a journey: *The train to Edinburgh will depart from platform 6 in five minutes.* – compare ARRIVE (1) **2 depart this life** *euph* to die; used esp. on GRAVESTONES

depart from sthg. *phr v* [T] to turn away from or stop following (a usual or former course of action, way of thinking, etc.): *We departed from our normal practice of holding the meetings in public.* –see also DEPARTURE (2)

de·part·ed /dɪ'pɑːtɪ̮d‖-ɑːr-/ *adj* **1** gone for ever: *to remember one's departed youth* **2** *euph* dead; a word used esp. by priests and older people: *our dear departed father* [also *n, the* +C, *pl.* **departed**] *Let us pray for all the faithful departed.*

de·part·ment /dɪ'pɑːtmənt‖-ɑːr-/ (*written abbrev.* **dept**) *n* **1** [C+*sing./pl. v*] any of the important divisions or branches of a government, business, college, etc.: *The History Department is/are using this room.* | *the toy department of a large store* | *She's the head of the firm's personnel department.* | *He's a senior executive at the Department of Transport/at the State Department.* **2** [C] (in various countries) a political division rather like a COUNTY in Britain or a state in the US **3** [S] *infml* an activity or subject which is the special responsibility of a particular person: *I'm not going to repair the clock – that's your department.* –~**al** /ˌdiːpɑːt'mentl◂‖-ɑːr-/ *adj*: *a departmental meeting*

Department of Ed·u·ca·tion and Sci·ence /ˌ···· ···ˌ··· '··/ also **DES**– [*the*] the British government department responsible for educational planning and decisions in England and Wales –compare SED

Department of Em·ploy·ment /ˌ···· ·'··/ [*the*] the government department in Britain which is responsible for all areas to do with employment, such as new laws and programmes on TRAINING, HEALTH AND SAFETY, EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES, etc.

Department of Health /ˌ··· · '·/ [*the*] the government in Britain which is responsible for health and the National Health Service

Department of Health and Hu·man Ser·vi·ces /ˌ··· · ˌ· · ˌ·· '··· [*the*] the American government department which is responsible for programmes concerning health, WELFARE (=aid to poor people), and SOCIAL SECURITY. Before 1979, it was called the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Department of Jus·tice /ˌ··· · '··/ [*the*] a department of the US government, headed by the Attorney General, which advises the government, writes laws, and represents the government in court

Department of La·bor /ˌ··· · '··/ [*the*] the American government department concerned with how workers are treated by employers. It examines subjects such as fair wages, safety, and the number of hours worked each week.

Department of Mo·tor Ve·hic·les /ˌ··· · '·· ˌ···/ DMV

Department of So·cial Se·cu·ri·ty /ˌ··· · ˌ··· ·'···/ [*the*] see DSS

Department of State /ˌ··· · '·/ [*the*] the department of the American government which manages FOREIGN POLICY (=one country's relationships with the others)

Department of the En·vi·ron·ment /ˌ··· · · ·'···/ also **DOE**– [*the*] the British government department concerned with planning, REGIONAL development, local government (including local government taxes) and protection of the countryside and old buildings

Department of the Interior /ˌ··· · · ·'···/ [*the*] an American government department with responsibility for protecting natural RESOURCES (=the land and water and the things in them, such as trees, MINERALS, animals, fish, etc.) The head of this department is called the Secretary of the Interior.

Department of Trade and In·dus·try /ˌ··· · ˌ· · '···/ also **DTI**– [*the*] the British government department concerned with trade and industry

department store /·'·· ·/ *n* a large shop divided into departments, in each of which a different type of goods is sold. Among the most famous department stores are, in Britain, Harrods, Debenhams, and John Lewis, and in the US, Macy's, Bloomingdales, and Marshall Field.

de·par·ture /dɪ'pɑːtʃəʳ‖-ɑːr-/ *n* **1** [C;U] an act of departing: *There are several departures a day for New York.* | *What is the departure time of the flight to New York?* | *(fml) It is time to* **take our departure.** (=to leave) | (fig.) *his sudden departure from the political scene* **2** [C (**from**)] a change from a usual or former course of action, etc.; DIVERGENCE: *The new policy represents a complete departure from their previous position.* | *This is a new departure for the company.*

departure lounge /·'·· ˌ·/ *n* the area at an airport where people wait until their flights are ready to leave. They can eat or drink, buy certain things, change money, etc., while they are waiting.

de·pend /dɪ'pend/ *v* **1** [*it*+T+*wh-*] to vary according to; be decided by: *You can buy them in all sizes – it depends how much you're prepared to spend.* **2 That (all) depends/It all depends** That/It has not yet been decided

depend on/upon sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** to trust (usu. a person); have confidence in: *You can't depend on John – he nearly always arrives late.* [+*obj*+*to-v*/*v-ing*] *We're depending on you to finish the job/on you finishing the job by Friday.* | *They'll be here soon,* **depend upon it.** (=you can be sure) **2** to be supported by, esp. with money; need for one's support: *The organization depends on the government for most of its income.* | *The country depends heavily on its tourist trade.* **3** [*not in progressive forms*] to vary according to; be decided by: *The price of the shares will depend on the number of people who want to buy them.* [+*wh-*] *The amount you pay depends on where you live.*

de·pen·da·ble /dɪ'pendəbəl/ *adj* able to be trusted; RELIABLE: *She won't forget – she's very dependable.* | *a dependable source of income* –**-bly** *adv* –**-bility** /dɪˌpendə'bɪlɪ̮ti/ *n* [U]

de·pen·dant , -dent /dɪ'pendənt/ *n* a person who depends on someone else for food, clothing, money, etc. A person's dependants are usu. their husband or wife and any children under 18: *Please state your name, age, and the number of dependants you have.*

de·pen·dence /dɪ'pendəns/ *n* [U (**on, upon**)] **1** the state of being dependent; inability to exist or operate without the help or support of someone or something else: *We need to reduce our dependence on oil as a source of energy.* –see also INDEPENDENCE **2** trust; RELIANCE: *I always place/put a lot of dependence on what she says.* **3** the need to have certain drugs regularly, esp. dangerous ones; ADDICTION

de·pen·den·cy /dɪ'pendənsi/ *n* a country controlled by another

de·pen·dent /dɪ'pendənt/ *adj* **1** [(**on**)] needing the help or support of someone or something else: *a dependent child* | *The country is heavily dependent on foreign aid/on its oil exports.* –see also INDEPENDENT **2** [F+**on**] that will be decided by: *The size of the crowd is largely dependent on the weather.*

dependent clause /·ˌ·· '·/ also **subordinate clause**– *n tech* (in grammar) a CLAUSE which cannot stand by itself, but can help to make a sentence when it is part of, or joined to, an INDEPENDENT CLAUSE: *"When I came" is a dependent clause in the two sentences "When I came, she had left" and "She wants to know when I came".*

de·pict /dɪ'pɪkt/ *v* [T (**as**)] *fml* to represent or show in or as if in a picture: *This painting depicts the birth of Venus.* | *The book depicts him as a rather unpleasant character.* –compare PICTURE²(2) –**-piction** /dɪ'pɪkʃən/ *n* [C;U]

de·pil·a·to·ry /dɪ'pɪlətəri‖-tɔːri/ *n, adj* (a substance) that gets rid of unwanted hair, esp. on the human body

de·plete /dɪ'pliːt/ *v* [T] *fml* to lessen greatly in amount, contents, etc.: *The seamen's strike has seriously depleted the country's stocks of food.* –**-pletion** /dɪ'pliːʃən/ *n* [U]

de·plor·a·ble /dɪ'plɔːrəbəl/ *adj* very bad; deserving severe disapproval; a fairly formal word rarely used by young people in spoken English: *The condition of this room is deplorable.* | *a deplorable waste of the taxpayers' money* –**-bly** *adv*: *She behaved deplorably.*

de·plore /dɪ'plɔːʳ/ *v* [T *not in progressive forms*] *fml* to feel or express sorrow and usu. severe disapproval for: *One must deplore their violent behaviour.*

de·ploy /dɪ'plɔɪ/ *v* [T] to spread out or arrange for effective action, esp. for military action: *The general deployed his forces.* | *We will have to deploy all our resources to win this election.* –~**ment** *n* [U]

de Pom·pa·dour /də 'pɒmpədʊəʳ‖-'pɑːmpədɔːr/, **Madame** (1721–64) the MISTRESS of King Louis XV of France. She had a lot of influence over politics from 1745 until her death.

de·pop·u·late /ˌdiːˈpɒpjʊleɪt‖-ˈpɑːp-/ *v* [T *usu. pass.*] to reduce greatly the population of (an area) —**lation** /ˌdiːpɒpjʊˈleɪʃən‖-pɑːp-/ *n* [U]

de·port[1] /dɪˈpɔːt‖-ɔːrt/ *v* [T] to send (someone who is not a citizen) out of the country, e.g. because they have broken the law or do not have a legal right to stay —~**ation** /ˌdiːpɔːˈteɪʃən‖-ɔːr-/ *n* [C;U] : *to issue a deportation order*

deport[2] *v* [T] *fml* to behave (oneself); CONDUCT (3) (oneself)

de·por·tee /ˌdiːpɔːˈtiː‖-ɔːr-/ *n* a person who has been deported or who is to be deported

de·port·ment /dɪˈpɔːtmənt‖-ɔːr-/ *n* [U] *fml* **1** *esp. BrE* the way a person, esp. a young lady, stands and walks **2** *esp. AmE* the way a person, esp. a young lady, behaves in the company of others

de·pose /dɪˈpəʊz/ *v* [T] **1** to remove from a position of power, esp. from that of ruler: *The head of state was deposed by the army.* **2** *law* to state (information) solemnly in a court of law —see also DEPOSITION

de·pos·it[1] /dɪˈpɒzɪt‖dɪˈpɑː-/ *v* [T] **1** [+ *obj* + *adv*/*prep*] to put or set down, usu. in a stated place: *Where can I deposit this load of sand?* | *She deposited her shopping on the table*/*deposited herself in the nearest chair.* **2** to let fall (fine substances) and leave lying: *As the river slows down it deposits rich soil at its bends.* | *Every surface was covered in dust deposited by the desert winds.* **3** to place in a bank or SAFE[2]: *You can deposit your valuables in the hotel safe.* —see also DEPOSITOR, SAFE-DEPOSIT BOX **4** to pay (money) that will be returned later if certain conditions are kept: *Tenants are usually required to deposit £100 with the agent, in case of damage or default.*

deposit[2] *n* **1** [C;U] **a** matter that has been deposited in rock by a natural process: *There are rich deposits of gold in those hills.* **b** matter that has been deposited by liquid: *salt deposits* | *too much deposit in a bottle of wine* **2** [C] an act of placing money in a bank or SAFE[2]: *I'd like to make a deposit please.* | *a deposit box* **3** [C *usu. sing.*] the first part of a payment for goods or service, as a sign that the payment will be completed: *The hotel requires a deposit for all advance bookings.* | *We put down a deposit on a new car today.* —compare DOWN PAYMENT **4** [C *usu. sing.*] money paid at the beginning of a business agreement, to be held in case the agreement is not kept: *You may have to pay a deposit to open an electricity account, but if you pay your bills promptly they won't keep it.* | *When you return the bottle we'll return your deposit.* | *to put down a deposit of £100 on a new car*

deposit ac·count /·ˈ·· ·ˌ·/ *n esp. BrE* a bank account which earns interest and from which money can usu. be taken out only if advance notice is given —compare CHECKING ACCOUNT, CURRENT ACCOUNT, SAVINGS ACCOUNT

dep·o·si·tion /ˌdepəˈzɪʃən, ˌdiː-/ *n* **1** [U] the act of deposing (DEPOSE) someone from a position of power **2** [C;U] *law* (the act of making) a solemn statement to a court of law

de·pos·i·tor /dɪˈpɒzɪtəʳ‖dɪˈpɑː-/ *n* a person who DEPOSITS money in a bank account

de·pos·i·to·ry /dɪˈpɒzɪtəri‖dɪˈpɑːzɪtɔːri/ *n* a person or place that keeps things safely stored

dep·ot /ˈdepəʊ‖ˈdiːpəʊ/ *n* **1** a storehouse for goods **2** a place where military stores are kept, and where new soldiers are trained **3 a** *AmE* a railway station or bus station, esp. a small one **b** a place where buses are kept and repaired; a bus garage

de·prave /dɪˈpreɪv/ *v* [T] to make evil in character: *The judge described the rapist as a vicious and depraved man.* | *Do you believe that these films are likely to* **deprave and corrupt** *young people?* —**pravation** /ˌdeprəˈveɪʃən/ *n* [U] —**pravity** /dɪˈprævɪti/ *n* [C;U]

dep·re·cate /ˈdeprɪkeɪt/ *v* [T *not in progressive forms*] *fml* to express disapproval of (an action, etc.); DEPLORE: *We strongly deprecate the use of violence by the strikers.* —**catingly** *adv* —**cation** /ˌdeprɪˈkeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

dep·re·ca·to·ry /ˈdeprɪkeɪtəri‖-kətɔːri/ *adj* **1** trying to prevent disapproval; APOLOGETIC: *He admitted his mistake with a deprecatory smile.* **2** expressing disapproval; deprecating

de·pre·ci·ate /dɪˈpriːʃieɪt/ *v* **1** [I] to fall in value: *The car's value will depreciate by about £2000 in the first year.* —opposite **appreciate** **2** [T] *fml* to represent as of little value; DENIGRATE: *We must not depreciate the work she has done.* —**ation** /dɪˌpriːʃiˈeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

de·pre·ci·a·to·ry /dɪˈpriːʃiətəri‖-ʃətɔːri/ *adj* tending to DEPRECIATE (2): *depreciatory remarks*

dep·re·da·tion /ˌdeprɪˈdeɪʃən/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] *fml* an act of destroying or ruining: *Not a single village escaped the depredations of war.*

de·press /dɪˈpres/ *v* [T] **1** to cause to feel sad and without hope; discourage: *The thought of having to take the exam again depressed me.* **2** to make less active or strong; cause to sink: *The threat of war has depressed business activity.* **3** *fml* to press down: *Depress this button to rewind the tape.*

de·pressed /dɪˈprest/ *adj* **1 a** low in spirits; sad and without hope **b** suffering from DEPRESSION: *You look rather depressed.* | *She's very depressed about her exam results at the moment.* | *He's been depressed for several months now.* **2** suffering from low levels of business activity, unemployment, etc.: *depressed areas of the country* **3** flattened, esp. with the central part lower than the edges

de·press·ing /dɪˈpresɪŋ/ *adj* causing sadness or discouragement; GLOOMY: *depressing news* | *What a depressing film!* —~**ly** *adv*

de·pres·sion /dɪˈpreʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U] **a** a feeling of sadness and hopelessness **b** a mental disorder during which people suffer from great sadness, unnatural tiredness and unwillingness to do anything, difficulty in thinking, etc.: *He suffers from acute depression.* **2** [C] a long period of seriously reduced business activity and high unemployment —compare RECESSION; see also GREAT DEPRESSION **3** [C] a part of a surface which is lower than the other parts: *The rain collected in several depressions on the ground.* **4** [C] *tech* an area where the pressure of the air is low in the centre and higher towards the outside: *A depression over the Atlantic usually brings bad weather in Britain.*

Depression [*the*] see GREAT DEPRESSION

dep·ri·va·tion /ˌdeprɪˈveɪʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the act of depriving or state of being deprived **2** [C] a lack or loss: *The refugees suffered terrible deprivations.*

de·prive /dɪˈpraɪv/ *v*

deprive sbdy. **of** sthg. *phr v* [T] to take away from; prevent from using or having (something thought to be necessary or a right): *This law will deprive us of our most basic rights.* | *The railways have been deprived of the money they need for modernization.*

de·prived /dɪˈpraɪvd/ *adj* without the food, money, and comfortable living conditions considered necessary for a reasonable life in Western society: *deprived children* | *a deprived childhood*

de·pro·gram /ˌdiːˈprəʊgræm/ *v AmE* [T] to bring (a person) back to an earlier way of thinking, esp. after they have been persuaded strongly and continuously into following and obeying a religious CULT

dept , Dept *written abbrev. for:* DEPARTMENT

depth /depθ/ *n* [C *usu. sing.*;U] **1** the state or degree of being deep: *What is the depth of this lake?* | *We dived to a depth of 30 feet.* **2** the quality of being deep in feeling, understanding, etc.: *They underestimated the depth of public feeling on this issue.* **3 out of**/**beyond one's depth: a** in water that is deeper than one's height **b** beyond one's ability to understand: *I'm out of my depth in this argument.* **4 in depth** /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ going beneath the surface appearance of things; done with great thoroughness: *We studied the situation in depth.* | *an in-depth study* —see also DEPTHS

depth charge /ˈ· ˌ·/ also **depth bomb** *n* a bomb that explodes at a certain depth under water, used for attacking SUBMARINES

depths /depθs/ *n* [*the*+P] the deepest, most central, or worst part of something: *in the depths of the ocean* | *in the depths of winter*/*of despair* | *According to the latest opinion polls, the government has* **plumbed new depths** (=reached a new low level) *of unpopularity.*

dep·u·ta·tion /ˌdepjʊˈteɪʃən/ *n* [C+*sing.*/*pl. v*] a group of people who are sent somewhere (e.g. to a meeting) as representatives of a larger group: *A deputation from the railwaymen's union has*/*have gone to have talks with the Prime Minister.*

de·pute /dɪˈpjuːt/ *v* [T + *obj* + to-v] *fml* to appoint (someone)

to do something instead of oneself: *I've been deputed to take charge of the shop while she's away at the conference.*

depute sthg. **to** sbdy. *phr v* [T] *fml* to give (part of one's job) to (someone else); DELEGATE to: *She's deputed the running of the shop to me while she's away at the conference.*

dep·u·tize also **-tise** *BrE* /'depjʊtaɪz/ *v* [I (**for**)] to act as a deputy: *Who's going to deputize for you when you're on holiday?*

dep·u·ty /'depjʊti/ *n* **1** a person, esp. one who is next in rank to the person in command, who has the power to take charge when the leading person is away: *John will be my deputy while I am away.* | *the deputy-headmistress of the school* **2** a member of the lower house of parliament in certain countries, such as France **3** (in the US) a person who has been appointed to help a SHERIFF

de·rail /ˌdiː'reɪl, dɪ-/ *v* [T] to cause (a train) to run off the railway line: *The 9.45 from Penzance was derailed by rocks placed on the line.* | (fig.) *right-wing elements determined to derail the peace process* —~**ment** *n* [C;U]

de·ranged /dɪ'reɪndʒd/ *adj* completely unbalanced in the mind; INSANE: *a deranged mind* | *He's totally deranged.* —**-rangement** *n* [C;U]

der·by /'dɑːbi‖'dɜːrbi/ *n* **1** *AmE for* BOWLER² **2** *esp. AmE* a race which any competitor can enter: *a bicycle derby* **3** (in football and other sports) a match between two teams based in the same area: *the Manchester derby* (=between Manchester United and Manchester City)

Derby a city in Derbyshire. It is known for its industries, which include engineering and CHINA —see also CROWN DERBY

Derby, the a very important yearly horse race held at Epsom in England in May or June, on a day which is known as **Derby Day** —see also KENTUCKY DERBY

Der·by·shire /'dɑːbiʃəʳ‖'dɜːr-/ a COUNTY in central England

de·reg·u·late /ˌdiː'regjʊleɪt/ *v* [T] to remove government rules and controls from (certain types of business activity) —**-lation** /ˌdiːregjʊ'leɪʃən/ *n* [U] : *the deregulation of air fares*

Der·ek /'derɪk/, **Bo** /bəʊ/ (1957–) an American actress, known for her beauty, who played the part of a perfect woman in the film *10*

der·e·lict¹ /'derɪlɪkt/ *adj* (esp. of a building) not used or lived in, and falling into decay or ruin: *a derelict old house*

derelict² *n fml* a person, esp. an ALCOHOLIC, who has no home or legal means of support; VAGRANT: *Many derelicts in the city live on the streets.*

der·e·lic·tion /ˌderɪ'lɪkʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U] *fml* failure to do what one should do: *The policeman was accused of* **dereliction of duty**. **2** [U] the state of being derelict

de·ride /dɪ'raɪd/ *v* [T] *fml* to laugh at or make fun of (something considered worthless); RIDICULE —see also DERISION

de rigueur /də riː'gɜːʳ/ *adj* [F] *Fr* proper and necessary according to fashion or custom: *That sort of hat is de rigueur at a formal wedding.*

de·ri·sion /dɪ'rɪʒən/ *n* [U] the act of deriding, esp. by unkind laughter: *They greeted his suggestion with shouts of derision.*

de·ri·sive /dɪ'raɪsɪv/ also **derisory**– *adj* showing derision: *derisive laughter* —~**ly** *adv*

de·ri·so·ry /dɪ'raɪsəri/ *adj* **1** so useless, ineffective, or small that it cannot be taken seriously; deserving derision: *They described the latest pay offer as "derisory".* **2** showing derision —**-rily** *adv*

der·i·va·tion /ˌderɪ'veɪʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U] the point or origin from which something comes: *What is the derivation of this word?* **2** [U] the process of deriving

de·riv·a·tive¹ /dɪ'rɪvətɪv/ *adj usu. derog* not original or new because of copying or showing the influence of others: *a very derivative style of painting|writing.* —~**ly** *adv*

derivative² *n* [(**of**)] something that is based on or formed from something else of the same type: *French is a derivative of Latin.* | *Heroin is a derivative of morphine.*

de·rive /dɪ'raɪv/ *v*

derive from *phr v* [T] **1** (=**derive** sthg. **from** sbdy./sthg.) to obtain (esp. something non-material) from: *He derives a lot of pleasure from meeting new people.* | *This word is derived from Latin.* **2** (=**derive from** sthg.) to come from; have as an origin: *The word "deride" derives from Latin.* | *His power derives mainly from his popularity with the army.* —see also DERIVATION —**derivable** *adj*

der·ma·ti·tis /ˌdɜːmə'taɪtɨs‖ˌdɜːr-/ *n* [U] a disease of the skin, marked by redness, swelling, and pain —see also CONTACT DERMATITIS

der·ma·tol·o·gy /ˌdɜːmə'tɒlədʒi‖ˌdɜːrmə'tɑː-/ *n* [U] the scientific study of the skin, esp. of its diseases and their treatment —**-gist** *n*

de·rog·ate /'derəgeɪt/ *v*

derogate from sthg. *phr v* [T] *fml* to lessen (a valuable quality, a right, etc.); DETRACT **from**

de·rog·a·to·ry /dɪ'rɒgətəri‖dɪ'rɑːgətɔːri/ *adj fml* showing or causing dislike or lack of respect. Derogatory words and phrases are marked *derog* in this dictionary: *He made derogatory remarks about the government's economic policy.* —**-rily** /dɪ'rɒgətərɨli‖dɪˌrɑːgə'tɔːrɨli/ *adv*

der·rick /'derɪk/ *n* **1** a CRANE for lifting and moving heavy weights, for example into or out of a ship **2** a tower built over an oil well to raise and lower the DRILL

der·ring-do /ˌderɪŋ 'duː/ *n* [U] *old use or humor* courageous action without thought of danger

Der·ry /'deri/ **1** a COUNTY in Northern Ireland, known for its farming **2** *infml for* LONDONDERRY

derv /dɜːv‖dɜːrv/ *n* [U] *BrE tdmk* an oil product used in DIESEL ENGINES

der·vish /'dɜːvɪʃ‖'dɜːr-/ *n* a member of any of a number of Muslim religious groups. Some dervishes are famous for dancing, spinning around, and shouting loudly as religious practices; they are known as **whirling dervishes**.

DES /ˌdiː iː 'es/ [*the*] the Department of Education and Science; the British government department responsible for educational planning and decisions in England and Wales —compare SED

de·sal·i·nate /diː'sælɨneɪt/ *v* [T] to remove salt from (esp. sea water) so that it can be used at home and in factories —**-nation** /diːˌsælɨ'neɪʃən/ *n* [U]

de·scale /ˌdiː'skeɪl/ *v* [T] to remove unwanted chalky matter (SCALE² (2)) from the inside of: *This kettle needs to be descaled.*

des·cant /'deskænt/ *n* [C;U] **1** music sung or played at the same time as the main music and usu. higher **2** high music; SOPRANO or TREBLE³ (2)

Des·cartes /'deɪkɑːt‖deɪ'kɑːrt/, **Re·né** /rə'neɪ/ (1596–1650) a French MATHEMATICIAN and PHILOSOPHER, famous for his saying "cogito ergo sum" (=I think, therefore I am)

de·scend /dɪ'send/ *v* [I;T] *rather fml* to come, fall, or sink from a higher to a lower level; go down: *The sun descended behind the hills.* | *The Queen descended the stairs.* | *I want to talk about all these points in descending order of importance.* —opposite **ascend** —see also DESCENT

descend on/upon sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** (of a group of people) to attack: *Armed thieves descended on the helpless travellers.* **2** to arrive, esp. in large numbers, to visit or stay with, often unexpectedly: *The whole family descended on us at Christmas.*

descend to sthg. *phr v* [T+*obj*|*v-ing*] to lower oneself to (a dishonourable or unpleasant level of behaviour): *I didn't expect him to descend to personal abuse|to abusing me personally.*

de·scen·dant /dɪ'sendənt/ *n* [(**of**)] a person (or animal) that has another as grandfather or grandmother, great-grandfather, etc.: *He is a descendant of Queen Victoria.* —compare ANCESTOR

de·scend·ed /dɪ'sendɨd/ *adj* [F+**from**] having the stated person or animal as grandfather or grandmother, great-grandfather, etc. Some people are very proud of the people they are descended from: *She claims to be descended from George Washington.*

de·scent /dɪ'sent/ *n* **1 a** [C;U] the process of going down: *We watched anxiously (during) her descent from the tree.* | (fig.) *his descent into a life of crime* **b** [C] a way down; downward slope, path, etc.: *a steep descent* —opposite **ascent** **2** [U] family origins of the stated type: *She is of German descent.* **3** [S;U] a sudden and esp. unwelcome visit or attack: *the annual descent on the city of thousands of tourists*

de·scribe /dɪ'skraɪb/ *v* [T] **1** [(**as**)] to say what something is like; give a picture of in words: *The police asked me to*

describe the two men. [+*wh*-] *Try to describe exactly how it happened.* | *The seller described it as a vintage car, but I'd call it an old wreck.* **2** *fml or tech* to draw or move in the shape of: *to describe a circle within a square* | *The falling star described a long curve in the sky.* —see also DESCRIPTION

de·scrip·tion /dɪ'skrɪpʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U] (the act of giving) a statement or account that describes: *The police have issued a detailed description of the missing woman.* | *This book gives a good description of life on a farm.* **2** [C] a sort or kind: *The hall was packed with people of every description/all descriptions.* | *I think it's a bird of some description.* **3 beyond description** (used to add force to what one is saying): *The play was boring beyond description.*

de·scrip·tive /dɪ'skrɪptɪv/ *adj* **1** that describes: *descriptive writing* | *a descriptive passage in a novel* **2** [*no comp.*] *tech* describing how a language is used: *a descriptive grammar of English* —compare PRESCRIPTIVE (1) —**~ly** *adv* —**~ness** *n* [U]

de·scry /dɪ'skraɪ/ *v* [T *not in progressive forms*] *lit* to notice or see (esp. something distant)

Des·de·mo·na /ˌdezdə'məʊnə/ the wife of Othello in Shakespeare's play *Othello*, who was killed by her husband who thought she was having sexual relations with another man

des·e·crate /'desɪkreɪt/ *v* [T] to use (something holy) for purposes which are not holy: *to desecrate a church by using it as a stable* —**-cration** /ˌdesɪ'kreɪʃən/ *n* [S;U]

de·seg·re·gate /diː'segrɪgeɪt/ *v* [T] to end racial or sexual SEGREGATION in (e.g. a school). In the US desegregation of schools was a big political and legal problem, esp. in the 1950s and 1960s —see also BUS[2] (1) —**-gation** /diːˌsegrɪ'geɪʃən/ *n* [U]

de-se-lect /ˌdiːsə'lekt/ *v* [T] to refuse to choose (a person) for a job, place in a team, etc. that they have previously done or had

de·sen·si·tize also **-tise** *BrE* /diː'sensətaɪz/ *v* [T] to make less sensitive to light, pain, etc.: *to desensitize photographic material* | *I think children are becoming desensitized to violence through watching too much on TV.* —**-tization** /diːˌsensətaɪ'zeɪʃən‖-tə-/ *n* [U]

des·ert[1] /'dezət‖-ərt/ *n* **1** a large sandy piece of land where there is very little rain and usu. not much plant life: *the Sahara Desert* | *a hot desert wind* **2** a place that is cheerless and without activity: *a cultural desert* —see also DESERTS

de·sert[2] /dɪ'zɜːt‖-ɜːrt/ *v* **1** [T] to leave empty or leave completely: *The guard deserted his post.* | *the silent deserted streets of the city at night* **2** [T] to leave at a difficult time or in a cruel way, esp. with the intention of not returning; ABANDON: *The baby's mother deserted him soon after giving birth.* | *All my friends have deserted me!* | (fig.) *When he had to speak his confidence suddenly deserted him.* **3** [I (**from**)] to leave military service without permission

de·sert·er /dɪ'zɜːtəʳ‖-ɜːr-/ *n* a person who leaves military service without permission: *Deserters were shot without mercy.*

de·ser·tion /dɪ'zɜːʃən‖-ɜːr-/ *n* [C;U] (an example of) the act of leaving one's duty, one's family, or military service without permission, esp. with the intention of never returning: *After two years he divorced his wife on the grounds of her desertion.*

desert is·land /ˌ·· '··/ *n* a small tropical island a long way from other land and with no one living there. Desert islands are thought of as being rather ROMANTIC (2) places, with sun, warm seas, and plenty of food and water available, perfect places to escape from the worries and responsibilities of ordinary life.

Desert Is·land Discs /ˌ·· ˌ·· '·/ a programme on BBC Radio 4 in which famous people talk about their lives and choose the eight records they would like to take with them if they were stuck on a desert island. They also choose one book (not the Bible or Shakespeare, as these are already on the island) and one LUXURY object.

Desert Or·chid /ˌ·· '··/ one of Britain's finest racehorses, who won many famous races in the 1980s

Desert Rats /ˌ·· '·/ [*the*] a group of British soldiers who fought in North Africa in the Second World War, and in the Gulf War in 1991 using TANKS (2).

de·serts /dɪ'zɜːts‖-ɜːrts/ *n* [P] what someone deserves, esp. if bad: *He eventually got his* **just deserts**.

Desert Shield see OPERATION DESERT SHIELD

Desert Storm see OPERATION DESERT STORM

de·serve /dɪ'zɜːv‖-ɜːrv/ *v* [T *not in progressive forms*] **1** to have earned by one's actions or character; be worthy of: *You've been working all morning – you deserve a rest.* [+*to-v*] *She deserved to win/to be punished.* **2 deserve well/ill of** *fml* to deserve to be treated well/badly by

de·serv·ed·ly /dɪ'zɜːvɪdli‖-ɜːr-/ *adv* rightly: *She's made a lot of money, and deservedly so.* —opposite **undeservedly**

de·serv·ing /dɪ'zɜːvɪŋ‖-ɜːr-/ *adj* worthy of support or help: *to give money to deserving causes such as children's charities* [F+**of**] (*fml*) *He is deserving of the highest praise for his conduct during the hijack.* —**~ly** *adv*

dés·ha·bil·lé /ˌdeɪzæ'biːeɪ/ *BrE* ‖ also **dishabille** *AmE*– *n* [U] the state of being only partly dressed. This word is usu. used of a woman, often with the suggestion that she is deliberately trying to excite a man: *She came to the door in (a state of) déshabillé.*

des·ic·cant /'desɪkənt/ *n tech* a chemical substance that makes things dry

des·ic·cate /'desɪkeɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to dry, esp. as a way of preserving: *desiccated coconut*

de·sid·e·ra·tum /dɪˌzɪdə'reɪtəm, -'rɑː-, dɪˌsɪ-/ *n* **-ta** /tə/ *fml* something desired as necessary

de·sign[1] /dɪ'zaɪn/ *v* **1** [I;T] to make a drawing or pattern of (something that will be made or built); develop and draw the plans for: *to design (dresses) for a famous shop* | *Who designed the Sydney Opera House?* **2** [T *often pass.*] to plan or develop for a certain purpose or use: *a book designed mainly for use in colleges* [+*obj*+*to-v*] *The building has been specially designed to provide easy access for people in wheelchairs.* —see also DESIGNER[1]

design[2] *n* **1** [C] a drawing or pattern showing how something is to be made: *Have you seen the latest designs for the new library?* **2** [U] also **designing**– the art of making such drawings or patterns: *a course in dress design* **3** [U] the arrangement of the parts in any man-made product, such as a machine or a work of art, as this influences the product's practical usefulness, artistic quality, etc.: *The success of this car shows the importance of good design in helping to sell the product.* **4** [C] a decorative pattern, esp. one that is not repeated: *a carpet with a floral design in the centre* – see picture **5** [C] a plan in the mind; SCHEME **6 by design** as a result of purposeful planning; intentionally: *She arrived just as we were leaving, but whether this was by accident or by design I'm not sure.* —see also DESIGNEDLY, DESIGNS

des·ig·nate[1] /'dezɪgneɪt/ *v* [T] **1** to choose or name for a particular job or purpose: [+ *obj* + **as**/*n*] *The Town Hall has been designated (as) an emergency feeding centre in the event of an enemy attack.* [+*obj*+*to-v*] *She has been designated to take over the position of party chairman.* **2** *fml* to point out or call by a special name: *These crosses on the drawing designate all the possible entrances to the castle.*

des·ig·nate[2] /'dezɪgnət, -neɪt/ *adj* [after *n*] *fml* chosen for an office but not yet officially placed in it: *the minister designate*

designated hit·ter /ˌ···· '··/ also **dh**– *n* (in the game of BASEBALL) a BATTER who replaces the PITCHER when it is his turn to hit. The rule allowing a designated hitter is used in the American LEAGUE but not in the National LEAGUE.

des·ig·na·tion /ˌdezɪg'neɪʃən/ *n* **1** [U (**of, as**)] the act of designating **2** [C] *fml* a name or title: *Her official designation is Research Editor.*

de·sign·ed·ly /dɪ'zaɪnədli/ *adv* on purpose; intentionally

de·sign·er[1] /dɪ'zaɪnəʳ/ *n* a person who makes plans or patterns, esp. professionally: *a designer of aircraft engines* | *a dress designer*

designer[2] *adj* [A] **1** made by and usu. carrying the name of a well-known designer: *designer jeans/sheets* **2** *often humor or derog* intended to make the user appear extremely fashionable: *designer stubble/socialism* **3** changed by GENETIC ENGINEERING: *a designer virus*

designer drug /·'·· ¸·/ *n* a drug that is produced artificially that has effects similar to those of illegal drugs such as COCAINE or HEROIN, but is not illegal itself

de·sign·ing[1] /dɪ'zaɪnɪŋ/ *adj derog* intending to deceive; cleverly dishonest: *a designing woman who's only after your money*

designing[2] *n* [U] DESIGN[2] (2)

de·signs /dɪ'zaɪnz/ *n* [P (**on, upon**)] clever and dishonest plans, esp. to get possession of something: *He* **has designs on** *your money|your job.*

de·sir·a·ble /dɪ'zaɪərəbəl/ *adj* **1** worth having, doing, or desiring: *a desirable house | For this job it is desirable to know something|desirable that you know something about medicine.* —compare UNDESIRABLE **2** causing sexual desire: *a beautiful and desirable woman* —**-bly** *adv* —**-bility** /dɪ¸zaɪərə'bɪlɨti/ *n* [U]

de·sire[1] /dɪ'zaɪəʳ/ *v* [T *not in progressive forms*] *fml* **1** to wish, want, or hope for, very much: *We all desire happiness.* [+*to-v*|*that*] *The Queen desires to see you at once|that you (should) come at once.* [+*obj*+*to-v*] *She desires you to come at once. | The standard of cooking here* **leaves a lot to be desired**. (=is not very satisfactory) —compare WANT, WISH **2** to wish to have sexual relations with

desire[2] *n* **1** [C;U (**for**)] a strong hope or wish: *The two leaders spoke of their desire for improved relations.* [+*to-v*|*that*] *He expressed a desire to see the papers|that the papers should be made public. | We must take into account the desires of our members.* **2** [C;U (**for**)] a strong wish for sexual relations with **3** [C *usu. sing.*] something or someone that is desired: *What is your greatest desire|your heart's desire?*

▷ USAGE You can have a **desire** for anything: *a* **desire** *for success | a* **desire** *to attend the meeting.* **Appetite** is used for things of the body, especially food: *The baby has a good|healthy* **appetite.** (=likes eating) A **craving** is a strong desire, especially for things which are thought to be bad: *a* **craving** *for cigarettes.* **Lust** is a very strong and usually derogatory word: *the* **lust** *for power|sex.*◁

de·sir·ous /dɪ'zaɪərəs/ *adj* [F+**of**] *fml* feeling a desire; having a strong wish:*desirous of wealth|fame*

de·sist /dɪ'zɪst, dɪ'sɪst/ *v* [I (**from**)] *fml* to stop doing; not do any more: *The judge told the man to desist from threatening his wife.*

desk /desk/ *n* **1** a piece of furniture rather like a table, often with drawers, at which one reads, writes, or does business **2** a place, e.g. in an airport or hotel, where information is provided, questions are answered, etc.: *the airport information desk | Leave your key at the reception desk. | (AmE) a* **desk clerk** *in a hotel*

de-skill /¸· '·/ *v* [T] **1** to remove or reduce the skill in (a job), usu. by changing to machinery **2** to prevent (a worker) from using skill through changes in the patterns or processes of making something

desk·top pub·lish·ing /¸desktɒp 'pʌblɪʃɪŋ‖-tɑːp-/ also **DTP**— *n* [U] using a small computer in offices and similar places to DESIGN and write papers, advertisements, books, magazines, etc., until they are ready for printing, sometimes using only one person or very few people: *The availability of reasonably-priced computers and laser printers has made the use of desktop publishing packages a reality.*

desk·work /'deskwɜːk‖-wɜːrk/ *n* [U] *often derog* office work; work done at a desk

des·o·late[1] /'desələt/ *adj* **1** (of a place) sad and without people or comfort: *a desolate old house* **2** (of a person) very sad through loss of hope, friends, etc. —see ALONE (USAGE) —**~ly** *adv* —**-lation** /¸desə'leɪʃən/ *n* [U]

des·o·late[2] /'desəleɪt/ *v* [T *usu. pass.*] to make desolate: *She was desolated by the death of her husband. | desolated streets*

de So·to /də 'səʊtəʊ/, **Her·nan·do** /hə'nændəʊ ‖ hər-/ **Fer·nan·do** /fə'nændəʊ, fər-/ (?1500–42) a Spanish EXPLORER who discovered the Mississippi River

de·spair[1] /dɪ'speəʳ/ *v* [I (**of**)] to lose all hope or confidence: *Don't despair: things will get better soon! | I despair of ever passing my driving test! | She received the news with a despairing sigh.* —**~ingly** *adv*

despair[2] *n* [U] **1** complete loss of hope or confidence: *Defeat after defeat filled us with despair|drove us into the depths of despair.* **2** [(**of**)] something that causes this feeling: *He is* **the despair of** *his teacher because he refuses to study.*

de·spatch /dɪ'spætʃ/ *n, v* DISPATCH

de·spatch·es /dɪ'spætʃɨz/ *n* DISPATCHES

des·pe·ra·do /¸despə'rɑːdəʊ/ *n* **-does** *or* **-dos** a violent criminal who fears no danger

des·per·ate /'despərɨt/ *adj* **1** ready for any wild act and not caring about danger, esp. because of loss of hope; RECKLESS: *a desperate criminal* **2** [F (**for**)] suffering extreme need, anxiety, or loss of hope: *She's desperate for work|for money.* [+*to-v*] *They're desperate to escape.* **3** (of an action) full of risk or danger; done as a last attempt and with little hope of success: *a last desperate attempt to save the company | desperate measures* **4** (of a situation) extremely difficult and dangerous; GRAVE: *The country is in a desperate state. | a desperate shortage of food* —**~ly** *adv* : *He glanced around desperately. | I'm desperately sorry.*

Desperate Dan /¸··· '·/ a very large COWBOY with an equally large APPETITE. He is a character in the British children's COMIC[1] (2) *The Dandy.*

Desperately Seek·ing Su·san /¸despərɨtli ¸siːkɪŋ 'suːzən/ an American film in which the popular music singer Madonna acted the part of a young woman called Susan

des·per·a·tion /¸despə'reɪʃən/ *n* [U] the state of being desperate: *He kicked at the door in desperation.*

des·pic·a·ble /dɪ'spɪkəbəl, 'despɪ-/ *adj* deserving to be despised; CONTEMPTIBLE: *despicable behaviour|cowards* —**-bly** *adv*

de·spise /dɪ'spaɪz/ *v* [T *not in progressive forms*] to regard as worthless, bad, or completely without good qualities; feel extreme dislike and disrespect for

de·spite /dɪ'spaɪt/ *prep fml* in spite of; not prevented by: *He came to the meeting despite his illness.* (=though he was ill) | *Demand for these cars is high, despite their high price.*

de·spoil /dɪ'spɔɪl/ *v* [T (**of**)] *fml or lit* to steal from using force, esp. in time of war; PLUNDER: *The victorious army despoiled the city of all its treasures.*

de·spon·dent /dɪ'spɒndənt‖dɪ'spɑːn-/ *adj* [(**about, at**)] completely without hope and courage; feeling that no improvement is possible: *She's become very despondent about her prospects of getting another job.* —**~ly** *adv* —**-dency** *n* [U]

des·pot /'despɒt, -ət‖'despət, -ɑːt/ *n* a person who has all the power of government and uses it unjustly and cruelly; TYRANT: *She rules her family like a real despot.* —**~ic** /dɪ'spɒtɪk, de-‖-'spɑː-/ *adj* —**~ically** /kli/ *adv*

des·pot·is·m /'despətɪzəm/ *n* [U] rule by a despot

des res /¸dez 'rez/ *n BrE infml* desirable RESIDENCE; a house that has desirable qualities; used mainly in house advertisements

des·sert /dɪ'zɜːt‖-ɜːrt/ *n* [C;U] (a) sweet food served after the main part of a meal

des·sert·spoon /dɪ'zɜːtspuːn‖-ɜːrt-/ *n esp. BrE* **1** a spoon between the sizes of a TEASPOON and TABLESPOON, used for eating dessert **2** also **des·sert·spoon·ful** /-fʊl/(*pl.* **-spoonfuls, -spoonsful**)— the amount held by a dessertspoon, equal to about two TEASPOONS —see pictures at PLACE SETTING and SPOON

dessert wine /·'· ·/ *n* [C;U] a sweet wine served with dessert or between meals

de·sta·bil·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /diː'steɪbɨlaɪz/ *v* [T] to make less firm or steady, esp. politically: *a deliberate attempt to destabilize the economy of a rival country* —**-ization** /diː¸steɪbɨlaɪ'zeɪʃən‖-bələ-/ *n* [U]

des·ti·na·tion /¸destɨ'neɪʃən/ *n* a place to which someone is going or to which something is sent, esp. at the end of a long journey: *The parcel was sent to the wrong destination. | We eventually arrived at our destination.*

des·tined /'destɨnd/ *adj* **1** [(**for**)] intended, esp. by fate, for some special purpose: *destined for an acting career* [F+*to-v*] *They were destined (by fate) never to see each other again. | Medicine is her destined profession.* **2** [F (**for**)] having as a destination: *a ship destined for America*

des·ti·ny /'destɨni/ *n* **1** [C] fate; what must happen and cannot be changed or controlled: *It was the great man's destiny to lead his country to freedom.* **2** [U] (*often cap.*) the

power that decides the course of events, thought of as a person or a force: *Destiny is sometimes cruel.*

des·ti·tute /ˈdestɨtjuːt‖-tuːt/ *adj* **1** without food, clothing, shelter, etc., or the money to buy them; extremely poor **2** [F+**of**] *fml* lacking in; completely without: *She was destitute of human feeling.* —**-tution** /ˌdestɨˈtjuːʃən‖-ˈtuː-/ *n* [U]

de·stroy /dɪˈstrɔɪ/ *v* [T] **1** to damage (something) so severely that it cannot be repaired; put an end to the existence of; ruin: *The fire destroyed most of the building.* | *All hopes of a peaceful settlement were destroyed by his speech.* **2** *euph* to kill (an animal), esp. one that is sick or badly hurt —see also DESTRUCTION

de·stroy·er /dɪˈstrɔɪəʳ/ *n* **1** a person who destroys **2** a small fast warship

de·struc·tion /dɪˈstrʌkʃən/ *n* [U] **1** the act of destroying or state of being destroyed: *the destruction of the South American rain forests* | *The enemy bombs caused widespread destruction.* **2** *fml* something that destroys: *Drink was her destruction.*

de·struc·tive /dɪˈstrʌktɪv/ *adj* **1** causing destruction: *a destructive storm* | *Small children can be very destructive.* **2** tending to find fault and point out what is wrong without suggesting improvements: *destructive criticism* —compare CONSTRUCTIVE — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

des·ul·to·ry /ˈdesəltəri, ˈdez-‖-tɔːri/ *adj fml* not having a particular plan or purpose: *a desultory conversation* —**-rily** /ˈdesəltərɨli, ˈdez-‖ˌdesəlˈtɔːrɨli, ˌdez-/ *adv*

de·tach /dɪˈtætʃ/ *v* [T (**from**)] to separate from a larger mass or group and usu. without violence or damage: *You can detach the handle by undoing this screw.* | *The general detached a small force to go and guard the palace.* —compare ATTACH — **~able** *adj* : *a detachable handle*

de·tached /dɪˈtætʃt/ *adj* **1** [*no comp.*] *esp. BrE* (of a house) not connected on any side with any other building. Many British people think that a detached house is the best type of house to have —compare SEMIDETACHED **2** not showing much personal feeling: *She has a very detached attitude to her divorce.* | *a detached observer*

de·tach·ment /dɪˈtætʃmənt/ *n* **1** [U] the act of detaching **2** [U] the state of being DETACHED (2): *to adopt an attitude of complete detachment* **3** [C+*sing./pl. v*] a group, esp. of soldiers, sent from the main group on special duty: *A detachment of troops was/were ordered to surround the airport.*

de·tail[1] /ˈdiːteɪl‖dɪˈteɪl/ *n* **1** [C] a single point or fact about something: *Everything in her story is correct down to the smallest detail.* | *The full details of the agreement have not yet been made public.* | *If you're interested in the job, I'll send you all the details.* **2** [U] such single parts considered together: *He has a good eye for detail and notices almost everything.* | *The colour in that picture is very good, but there's too much detail.* | *She described the accident* **in (great) detail**. (=giving all the details) | *Well, without* **going into detail** (=I won't tell you all the details) *we've managed to find a suitable house.* **3** [C+*sing./pl. v*] a small working party of soldiers or sailors — **~ed** *adj* : *a detailed account of his work*

detail[2] *v* [T] **1** to appoint (esp. soldiers) to do some special duty: [+*obj*+*to-v*] *He detailed three soldiers to look for water.* **2** to give a full list of: *Could you detail all your expenses on this form?*

de·tain /dɪˈteɪn/ *v* [T] **1** to prevent (a person) from leaving for a certain time: *The police have detained two men for questioning at the police station.* —see also DETENTION **2** to delay: *This matter isn't very important, and shouldn't detain us very long.*

de·tain·ee /ˌdiːteɪˈniː/ *n* a person detained officially, esp. for political reasons, often in a camp rather than a prison

de·tas·sel /diːˈtæsəl/ *v* [I;T] *AmE* to remove (the flowering part) from a male CORN plant in order to prevent it from breeding: *Those fields have to be detasseled this week.* | *a summer job detasseling corn*

de·tect /dɪˈtekt/ *v* [T] to find out; notice or discover: *Small quantities of poison were detected in the dead man's stomach.* | *I detected a note of annoyance in his voice.* — **~able** *adj*

de·tec·tion /dɪˈtekʃən/ *n* [U] the act or work of detecting: *His crime escaped detection* (=was not found out) *for many years.*

de·tec·tive /dɪˈtektɪv/ *n* **1** a policeman whose job is to find out information that will lead to criminals being caught. Detectives usu. wear ordinary clothes, not uniforms: *Several plain-clothes detectives were also sent to the scene of the crime.* —see also CID, STORE DETECTIVE **2** a person who tries to find out information about something, esp. a crime, for someone else, and who is usu. paid by that person. There are many famous detectives in FICTION, among them Sherlock Holmes, Hercule Poirot, and Perry Mason — see also PRIVATE DETECTIVE

detective



detective nov·el /·ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a DETECTIVE STORY in the form of a book

detective sto·ry /·ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a story in which there is usually a murder and a detective trying to find out who the murderer is and why it happened

de·tec·tor /dɪˈtektəʳ/ *n* any instrument for finding out the presence of something: *a metal detector* —see also LIE DETECTOR

dé·tente /ˈdeɪtɒnt, deɪˈtɒnt‖-ɑːnt/ *n* [C;U] (a state of) calmer political relations between countries which are unfriendly towards each other

de·ten·tion /dɪˈtenʃən/ *n* [C;U] **1** the act of detaining someone (DETAIN), esp. someone who is believed to be guilty of a crime, or the state of being detained: *the detention of terrorists without trial* | *They were released from detention without being charged.* **2** the state of being kept in school after school hours as a punishment, usu. for disobeying a school rule: *He was kept in detention for talking during class.* | *I've had three detentions this semester.*

detention cen·tre /·ˈ·· ˌ··/ *BrE*‖**detention home** *AmE*— *n* a place where young people who have committed crimes go for short periods for training in obedience and self-control if they are too young to go to prison

de·ter /dɪˈtɜːʳ/ *v* **-rr-** [T (**from**)] to prevent from acting, esp. by the threat of something unpleasant: *We need severe punishments to deter people from dealing in drugs.* —see also DETERRENT

de·ter·gent /dɪˈtɜːdʒənt‖-ɜːr-/ *n* [C;U] something, esp. chemical product without soap in it, used for cleaning clothing, dishes, etc. Many detergents are now considered bad for the environment.

de·te·ri·o·rate /dɪˈtɪəriəreɪt/ *v* [I] to become worse: *his deteriorating health* | *Relations between the superpowers have deteriorated sharply in recent weeks.* —**-ration** /dɪˌtɪəriəˈreɪʃən/ *n* [U]

de·ter·mi·nant /dɪˈtɜːmɪnənt‖-ɜːr-/ *n fml* something that decides, fixes, settles, or limits: *Is cost or reliability the main determinant in choosing a new car?*

de·ter·mi·na·tion /dɪˌtɜːmɨˈneɪʃən‖-ɜːr-/ *n* [U] **1** the ability to make firm decisions and act in accordance with them; strong will to succeed: *a woman of great determination who always gets what she wants* **2** [+*to-v*] firm intention: *The police chief spoke of his determination to catch the killers.* **3** the finding of the exact position or nature of something: *the determination of the cause of his death* —see also SELF-DETERMINATION

de·ter·mine /dɪˈtɜːmɨn‖-ɜːr-/ *v* [T] *fml* **1** to (cause to) form a firm intention or decision: [+*to-v*/*that*] *We determined to go at once/that we would go at once.* [+*obj*+*to-v*] *Her encouragement determined me to carry on with the work.* [T+*that*; ~~*obj*~~] *The court determined that the man was guilty of assault.* **2** to fix or find out exactly, e.g. by making calculations, collecting information, etc.: *to determine the position of a star/the cause of the accident* [+*wh-*] *We should first try to determine how much it is going to cost.* **3** to have a controlling influence on; have a direct and important effect on: *The amount of rainfall determines the size of the crop.* | *The size of the crop is determined by the amount of rainfall.*

de·ter·mined /dɪˈtɜːmɨnd‖-ɜːr-/ *adj* having a strong will; RESOLUTE: *a very determined woman who always gets what she wants* [F+*to-v*] *I am determined to go and nothing will stop me.*

de·ter·min·er /dɪˈtɜːmɨnəʳ‖-ɜːr-/ *n tech* a word that limits the meaning of a noun and comes before adjectives that describe the same noun: *In the phrases "his new car" and "that green coat", the words "his" and "that" are determiners.*

de·ter·min·is·m /dɪˈtɜːmɨnɪzəm‖-ɜːr-/ *n* [U] the belief that acts and events are settled by earlier causes and nothing can be done to change them or prevent them —**-tic** /dɪˌtɜːmɨˈnɪstɪk◂‖-ɜːr-/ *adj : deterministic beliefs*

de·ter·rent /dɪˈterənt‖-ˈtɜːr-/ *n, adj* (something) that DETERS: *Do you think the threat of punishment has a deterrent effect? | Some people claim that we only have small wars because of the nuclear deterrent.* (=the threat of atomic war, which prevents countries from fighting) —**-rence** *n* [U]

de·test /dɪˈtest/ *v* [T *not in progressive forms*] to hate very much: *I detest people who tell lies. | She detests having to talk to people at parties.* —~**able** *adj : a detestable child* —~**ably** *adv* —~**ation** /ˌdiːteˈsteɪʃən/ *n* [U]

de·throne /dɪˈθrəʊn/ *v* [T] to remove (a king or queen) from power —~**ment** *n* [U]

det·o·nate /ˈdetəneɪt/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) explode by means of a special apparatus: *They detonated the bomb and destroyed the bridge.*

det·o·na·tion /ˌdetəˈneɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] (the noise of) an explosion

det·o·na·tor /ˈdetəneɪtəʳ/ *n* a piece of equipment used to detonate something explosive

de·tour /ˈdiːtʊəʳ/ *n* a way round something to avoid a traffic problem or to visit something in a different place: *They* **made a detour** *to avoid the town centre.*

de·tract /dɪˈtrækt/ *v*

detract from sthg. *phr v* [T *not in progressive forms*] to take something of value away from; cause to be or seem less valuable: *All the decoration detracts from the beauty of the building's shape. | I don't want to detract from their achievement in winning the cup, but the fact is that their opponents were very weak.* —compare ADD **to**

de·trac·tion /dɪˈtrækʃən/ *n* [U **(from)**] something which detracts: *To say that his work is strongly influenced by earlier film-makers is no detraction (from its value).*

de·trac·tor /dɪˈtræktəʳ/ *n* a person who says bad things about someone or something in order to make him/her/it seem less good or valuable: *Her detractors say she does not really understand ordinary people.*

de·train /ˌdiːˈtreɪn/ *v* [I] *AmE fml* to get off a railway train

det·ri·ment /ˈdetrɨmənt/ *n fml* [U **(to)**] the condition of suffering harm or damage: *Do you think the government can carry out these policies without detriment to its popularity? | He smoked a lot,* **to the detriment of** *his health.* —~**al** /ˌdetrɨˈmentl◂/ *adj* [**(to)**] *: a decision that may be detrimental to the company's future* —~**ally** *adv*

de·tri·tus /dɪˈtraɪtəs/ *n* [U] *tech* loose material produced by something breaking up or being rubbed away

De·troit /dɪˈtrɔɪt/ a city in SE Michigan in the US, on the Detroit river. It is famous for its (now troubled) car industry, and its music industry —see colour map on pages 1374-5

►CULTURAL NOTE There are so many car factories in Detroit that Americans often just say "Detroit" when they mean car companies. Because of economic problems, Detroit has become a fairly poor area.◄

de trop /də ˈtrəʊ/ *adj* [F] *Fr pomp* too much or too many; not needed: *I thought the last part of her speech was rather de trop.*

Det·tol /ˈdetɒl, -tl‖-tl/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a liquid for killing GERMS, used esp. in the treatment of cuts, stings, spots etc.

deuce /djuːs‖duːs/ *n* **1** [U] (in tennis) 40–40; 40 points to each player. After deuce has been reached, one of the players must then get two points in a row to win the game —see also ADVANTAGE (3) **2** a playing card or throw of the DICE worth two points **3** [(*the*) S] *old-fash euph sl* (used for adding force to an expression) the devil: *What the deuce happened? | We had the deuce of a time finding their house.*

deuc·ed /ˈdjuːsɨd, djuːst‖ˈduː-/ *adj, adv* [A] *old-fash euph sl* very bad(ly); unfortunate(ly); DAMNED: *You seem to be in a deuced hurry. | This bag is deuced heavy!* —~**ly** *adv*

de·us ex mach·in·a /ˌdeɪʊs eks ˈmækɪnə ‖ -ˈmɑː-/ *n Lat* **1** (in early Greek and Roman theatre) a god brought onto the stage to decide the end of the play **2** any unlikely or artificial way of doing something which is used suddenly or at the last minute to end a problem: *The author produces a perfect deus ex machina in the form of the woman's long lost twin who cures all her problems in about two pages.*

Deutsch·mark /ˈdɔɪtʃmɑːk‖-mɑːrk/ also **Deutsch·e Mark** /ˌdɔɪtʃə ˈmɑːk‖-ˈmɑːrk/, **mark**— *n* the standard unit of money in Germany. The Deutschmark is regarded as an extremely STABLE type of money.

deux-che·vaux /ˌdɜː ʃəˈvəʊ ‖ ˌduː-/ also **2CV** *n Fr* a small French car which is becoming more popular in Britain, esp. with young MIDDLE-CLASS people

de Val·ois /də ˈvælwɑː/, **Dame Ni·nette** /niːˈnet/ (1898–) an Irish BALLET dancer and manager who helped develop the style and content of British ballet and whose original ballet company is now the Royal Ballet

de·val·u·a·tion /diːˌvæljuˈeɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] a reduction in the value of something, esp. in the official exchange value of money: *A further devaluation of the pound may be necessary to improve our balance of payments.*

de·val·ue /diːˈvæljuː/ *v* **1** [I;T] to reduce the exchange value of (money): *We had to devalue (our currency) last year.* —compare REVALUE (2) **2** [T] to make (e.g. a person or action) seem less valuable or important: *Let's not devalue his work unjustly.*

dev·a·state /ˈdevəsteɪt/ *v* [T] to destroy completely (a city, area of land, etc.) so that nothing useful or valuable remains: *The fire devastated the city. | The country's coffee crop was devastated by the floods. | (fig.) We were devastated by the awful news.* —**-station** /ˌdevəˈsteɪʃən/ *n* [U]

dev·a·stat·ing /ˈdevəsteɪtɪŋ/ *adj* **1** destroying completely: *a devastating storm | (fig.) a devastating argument against our plan* **2** *infml* very good, attractive, etc.; IRRESISTIBLE: *You look devastating in that new dress. | his devastating charm* —~**ly** *adv*

de·vel·op /dɪˈveləp/ *v* **1** [I;T **(from, into)**] to come or bring gradually to a larger, more complete, or more advanced state; (cause to) grow or increase: *In less than ten years, it develops from a seed into a full-grown tree. | They do exercises to develop their muscles. | From small beginnings it has developed into a big multinational company.* **2** [T] to study, think out, or talk about in detail; ELABORATE: *I'd like to develop this idea a little more fully before I go on to my next point.* **3** [T] to bring out the full possibilities of (esp. land or natural substances): *to develop the natural resources of a country* (=by searching for minerals, etc.) *| The council are planning to develop the area to the west of the town centre.* (=by building new houses, offices, roads, etc. there) —see also DEVELOPER **4** [I] *fml* to begin to be seen or become active: *Trouble is developing in the cities.* **5** [T] *fml* to come to have gradually; ACQUIRE: *She has developed an interest in international affairs. | The baby seems to have developed a cold.* **6** [I;T] (in photography) to (cause to) appear on a film or photographic paper: *Our holiday photos haven't been developed yet. | These photographs haven't developed very well.*

de·vel·op·er /dɪˈveləpəʳ/ *n* **1** [C] a person who hopes to make a profit from building on land, improving buildings, etc. **2** [C;U] a chemical substance used for developing photographs

developing coun·try /·ˌ··· ˈ··/ also **developing nation**— *n euph* a poor country that is trying to build up its industry and improve the living conditions of its people

de·vel·op·ment /dɪˈveləpmənt/ *n* **1** [U **(from, into)**] the act of developing or the process of being developed: *the development of a seed into a plant | This was an important stage in the country's development.* **2** [C **(from, of)**] a result of developing: *This new rose is a development from a very old kind of rose.* **3** [C] a new event or piece of news: *Have you heard about the latest development in the murder trial? | The use of computers in business is a fairly recent development.* **4** [C] a developed piece of land, esp.

one that has houses built on it: *to live in a new* **housing development** —~**al** /dɪˌveləpˈmentl◂/ *adv*

development ar·e·a /·ˈ··· ˌ···/ *n BrE* an area of high unemployment, to which the government encourages new industries to come

de·vi·ant /ˈdiːviənt/ also **de·vi·ate** /-ɪt/ *AmE*— *adj* (of a person's behaviour) different from what is socially acceptable in Britain, the US, and many other countries: *sexually deviant behaviour* | *Deviant children need help.* —**-ance** *n* [U] —**deviant** *n*

de·vi·ate /ˈdiːvieɪt/ *v* [I (**from**)] to be different or move away from a usual or accepted standard of behaviour: *She never deviates from her regular habits.* | *On this occasion the plane deviated from its usual flight path.*

de·vi·a·tion /ˌdiːviˈeɪʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U (**from**)] (a) noticeable difference from what is expected, esp. from accepted standards of behaviour: *sexual deviation* | *a slight deviation from the original plan* **2** [C] *tech* a measurable difference from a standard, esp. **a** the difference between the MAGNETIC NORTH (=to which the COMPASS needle points) and true north **b** (in STATISTICS) the difference between a measure and the average of all the measures

de·vi·a·tion·ist /ˌdiːviˈeɪʃənɪst/ *n derog* a person who disagrees about some points of a system of political beliefs —**-ism** *n* [U]

de·vice /dɪˈvaɪs/ *n* **1** a piece of equipment intended for a particular purpose: *a device for varying the speed of a camera's shutter* | *The missile has a heat-seeking device which enables it to find its target.* —see MACHINE (USAGE) **2** a plan, esp. for a rather dishonest purpose: *a device for avoiding income tax* **3** a special phrase intended to produce a particular effect in a work of literature: *a rhetorical device* **4** *euph* a bomb or other explosive weapon: *an incendiary device* **5** *tech* a drawing or picture used by a noble family as their special sign: *the device on his shield* **6 leave someone to their own devices** to leave someone alone, without help

dev·il[1] /ˈdevəl/ *n* **1** [*the*] (*usu. cap.*) the most powerful evil spirit in Christianity; Satan. The Devil is usually shown in pictures as a man-like creature, usually red in colour, with two small horns coming out of his head and a small, pointed beard. He usually has a FORKED tail and CLOVEN HOOFS. In his hand he holds a long fork with three points. The Devil is thought of as living in Hell and ruling over the people there. —see also HELL **2** [C] an evil spirit: *spending eternity tormented by devils* **3** [C] an evil person: *My son can be a little devil at times!* **4** [C] *infml humor* a high-spirited person who is ready for adventure: *Go on,* **be a devil** *and have another cream cake!* **5** [C] *infml* (in expressions of strong feeling) a person: *You lucky devil!* | *The poor devils have been stuck at the airport for three days.* **6** [(*the*) S] *sl* (used to give force to various expressions, esp. of displeasure): *We had a devil of a job trying to persuade her.* | *What the devil happened?* **7 between the devil and the deep (blue) sea** *infml* facing two choices, both of which are unpleasant **8 Devil take the hindmost** You must make sure of your own success and not worry about other people **9 give the devil his due** to be fair even to a bad person **10 go to the devil a** to be ruined **b** to go away at once: *"I want $100 from you today." "Go to the devil!"* **11 like the devil** *infml* with great speed, force, etc.: *We ran like the devil.* **12 The devil finds work for idle hands to do** If people are not kept busy, they may do something that they should not be doing **13 the ˈdevil to pay** *sl* a great deal of trouble: *There'll be the devil to pay if we're caught inside the building.* **14 the devil you know** also **better the devil you know**— an expression used to give one's opinion that it is better to stay with someone who is not very dependable than to find someone else, who you may later find is exactly the same or worse: *I'm not happy about dealing with his company, but it's a case of the devil you know...* **15 The ˈdevil you will/won't, he can/can't, etc.** *old-fash sl* (used as a rude reply showing strong disagreement): *"John says he'll leave early today." "The devil he will!"* —see also **play the devil with** (PLAY[2] (22)), **talk of the devil** (TALK[1] (12))

devil



devil[2] *v* **-ll-** *BrE* ‖ **-l-** *AmE* [T] **1** *BrE* to cook in a very hot-tasting thick liquid: *devilled chicken/eggs* **2** *AmE* to add a hot SPICE to a food which has been cut up very fine

dev·il·ish /ˈdevəlɪʃ/ *adj* very bad or very difficult: *devilish schemes* | *a devilish problem to solve* —~**ness** *n* [U]

dev·il·ish·ly /ˈdevəlɪʃli/ also **devilish**— *adv infml* (showing displeasure) very; a word used esp. by upper-class people: *It was devilish(ly) hard work climbing the mountain.*

devil-may-care /ˌ·· · ˈ·◂/ *adj* cheerful, careless, and wild in behaviour; RECKLESS

dev·il·ment /ˈdevəlmənt/ also **dev·il·ry** /-ri/ ‖ also **deviltry** *AmE*— *n* [U] (a piece of) wild or bad behaviour that usu. causes trouble: *That child is always busy with some devilment or other.*

devil's ad·vo·cate /ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n* a person who continually questions a plan, idea, etc., even though they may not disagree with it, in order to test how good it is: *He wouldn't join in the argument, but just played devil's advocate.*

devil's-food cake /ˈ·· · ˌ·/ *n* [C;U] *AmE* a kind of rich chocolate cake

Devil's Is·land /ˌ·· ˈ··/ an island off the coast of French Guiana which became well known for its use as a prison for criminals who had been given sentences of hard labour

dev·il·try /ˈdevəltri/ *n AmE for* DEVILMENT

de·vi·ous /ˈdiːviəs/ *adj* **1** not going in the straightest way: *a devious route* **2** *derog* not direct and not completely honest: *He's very devious.* | *She used devious means to gain power.* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

de·vise /dɪˈvaɪz/ *v* [T] **1** to plan or invent, esp. cleverly: *They devised a plan for getting the jewels out of the country.* **2 devise and bequeath** *law* to BEQUEATH

de·vi·tal·ize also **-ise** *BrE* /ˌdiːˈvaɪtl-aɪz/ *v* [T] to take the strength or power from —compare REVITALIZE —**-ization** /diːˌvaɪtl-aɪˈzeɪʃən‖-əˈzeɪ-/ *n* [U]

de·void /dɪˈvɔɪd/ *adj* [F+**of**] *fml* empty (of); lacking (in): *This house is totally devoid of furniture.* | *He is devoid of human feeling!*

de·vo·lu·tion /ˌdiːvəˈluːʃən/ *n* [U] the giving of governmental or personal power to a person or group at a lower or more local level. Some people in Scotland and Wales would like devolution from the British government: *the devolution lobby* —see also HOME RULE —~**ist** *n, adj*

de·volve /dɪˈvɒlv‖dɪˈvɑːlv/ *v*

devolve on/upon sbdy. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] (of power, work, etc.) to be passed to (a person or group at a lower level): *While the President is ill, most of his work will devolve on his deputy.*

devolve to sbdy. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] *law* (of land, goods, etc.) to become the property of (someone) on the death of the owner: *The house will devolve to his daughter.*

Dev·on /ˈdevən/ a COUNTY in SW England noted for its natural beauty. Many British people think of cream, CIDER, and holidays in connection with Devon

de·vote /dɪˈvəʊt/ *v*

devote sthg. **to** sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] to set apart for; give completely to: *He has devoted his life to helping blind people.* | *I don't think we should devote any more time to this question.* | *Several pages of the paper were devoted to an account of the election.*

de·vot·ed /dɪˈvəʊtɪd/ *adj* [(**to**)] showing great fondness or loyalty; caring a great deal: *a devoted father/friend* | *He is very devoted to his wife.* | *devoted to music/football* | *Most of our meetings were devoted to discussing the housing problem.* —~**ly** *adv*

dev·o·tee /ˌdevəˈtiː/ *n* **1** [(**of**)] a person who has great admiration for, or interest in, someone or something: *a devotee of Bach* (=Bach's music)/*football* **2** a very religious person: *The temple was full of devotees praying.*

de·vo·tion /dɪˈvəʊʃən/ *n* [U (**to**)] **1** great fondness or loyalty **2** the act of devoting or the condition of being

devoted to something **3** attention to religion; devoutness (DEVOUT) —see also DEVOTIONS

de·vo·tion·al /dɪ'vəʊʃənəl/ *adj* about or used in religious devotions: *devotional literature*

de·vo·tions /dɪ'vəʊʃənz/ *n* [P] religious acts, esp. prayers

de·vour /dɪ'vaʊəʳ/ *v* [T] **1** to eat hungrily and in large quantities, so that nothing remains: *The lion devoured the deer.* | (fig.) *She devoured the new book.* **2** [*usu. pass.*] (of a feeling) to possess (a person); completely take up the attention of: *He was devoured by hatred|jealousy.*

de·vout /dɪ'vaʊt/ *adj* **1** (of people) seriously concerned with religion; PIOUS: *a devout Hindu|Catholic* **2** [A] felt very deeply; sincere: *It is my devout hope that he will never come back.* —**~ly** *adv* —**~ness** *n* [U]

dew /dju:‖du:/ *n* [U] the small drops of water which form on cold surfaces during the night

dew·drop /'dju:drɒp‖'du:drɑ:p/ *n* a drop of dew, or something that looks like one

Dew·ey dec·i·mal sys·tem /ˌdju:i 'desɨməl ˌsɪstɨm‖ˌdu:i-/ also **Dewey decimal clas·si·fi·ca·tion** /ˌ·· '··· ···ˌ·/— [*the*] a way of putting library books in order by giving decimal numbers to books of different types. It was thought of by **Melvil Dewey** (1851–1931), an American LIBRARIAN.

dew·lap /'dju:læp‖'du:-/ *n* a hanging fold of loose skin under the throat of a cow, dog, etc.

dew·pond /'dju:pɒnd‖'du:pɑ:nd/ *esp. BrE* a small hollow, usu. man-made, in which dew collects

dew·y /'dju:i‖'du:i/ *adj* wet with, or as if with, dew —**-ily** *adv* —**-iness** *n* [U]

dewy-eyed /ˌ·· '·◂/ *adj* **1** having eyes that are slightly wet with tears **2** too willing to believe and trust because of inexperience

dex·ter·i·ty /dek'sterɨti/ *n* [U] *apprec* quick cleverness and skill, esp. in the use of the hands: *the dexterity with which he plays the piano*

dex·ter·ous /'dekstərəs/ also **dex·trous** /'dekstrəs/— *adj apprec* having dexterity; ADROIT: *She untied the knots with dexterous fingers.* —**~ly** *adv*

dex·trose /'dekstrəʊz, -strəʊs/ *n* [U] a form of sugar (GLUCOSE) found in many sweet fruits

DFW /ˌdi: ef 'dʌbəlju:/ Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport; a very large American airport that serves the area around Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas: *a short stopover at DFW*

dh /ˌdi: 'eɪtʃ/ *n* a DESIGNATED HITTER

Dhak·a /'dækə/ the capital of Bangladesh, an industrial city

dho·ti /'dəʊti/ *n* a garment worn on the lower part of the body by some Hindu men, consisting of a cloth that goes round the waist and between the legs

dhow /daʊ/ *n* an Arab ship with one large sail, used for trade round the coasts

DHSS /ˌdi: eɪtʃ es 'es/ [*the*] the Department of Health and Social Security; the former name of the Department of Social Security —see DSS

Di /daɪ/, **Princess** *infml for* DIANA[1]

DI /ˌdi: 'aɪ/ *n* Detective Inspector; a middle rank in the British police force's PLAIN-CLOTHES division

di·a·be·tes /ˌdaɪə'bi:ti:z, -tɨs/ *n* [U] a disease in which there is too much sugar in the blood. Some people with diabetes have to INJECT a substance called INSULIN every day. Others may be able to control it by eating the correct foods. Without insulin, the sufferer may go into a COMA and die.

di·a·bet·ic /ˌdaɪə'betɪk◂/ *adj, n* (typical of or suitable for) a person suffering from diabetes: *She's diabetic|She's a diabetic.* | *diabetic jam* (=made for diabetics)

di·a·bol·i·cal /ˌdaɪə'bɒlɪkəl◂ ‖ -'bɑ:-/ also **diabolic** *rare*— *adj* **1** very cruel and evil: *What a diabolical plan!* **2** *infml, esp. BrE* extremely unpleasant or of very low quality: *His French|Her cooking is diabolical.* | *I've been waiting for this train for 45 minutes. It's really diabolical!* —**~ly** /kli/ *adv*

di·a·crit·ic /ˌdaɪə'krɪtɪk/ *n* a mark placed over, under, or through, a letter, to show a sound value different from that of the same letter without the mark, frequently used in some languages, e.g. in Arabic —**~al** *adj : diacritical marks*

di·a·dem /'daɪədem/ *n lit* a crown of jewels, flowers, etc.: *her royal diadem*

di·ae·re·sis , di·e- /daɪ'ɪərɨsɨs, -'e-‖-'e-/ *n* **-ses** /si:z/ a sign (ü) placed over the second of two vowels to show that it is pronounced separately from the first —compare UMLAUT

Di·ag·hi·lev /di'ægɨlef/, **Ser·gei Pav·lo·vich** /sɜ:'geɪ 'pævləvɪtʃ ‖ sɜ:r-/ (1872–1929) a Russian who arranged for Russian Art and Music to be seen both at home and abroad and who had his own dance company, the famous Ballet Russe

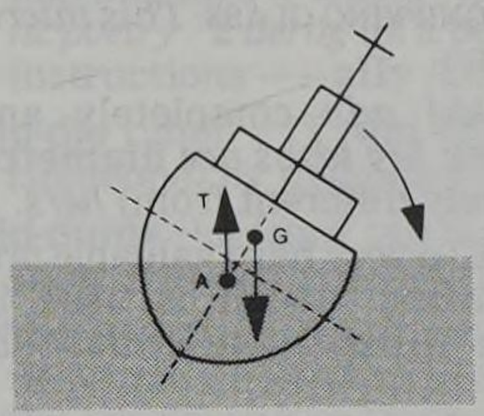
di·ag·nose /'daɪəgnəʊz‖-nəʊs/ *v* [T (**as**)] to discover the nature of (a disease or fault) by making a careful examination: *The doctor diagnosed my illness (as a rare bone disease).* | *to diagnose the fault in an engine*

di·ag·no·sis /ˌdaɪəg'nəʊsɨs/ *n* **-ses** /si:z/ [C;U (**of**)] (a judgment which is the result of) the act of diagnosing: *Diagnosis is one of the most important parts of the doctor's work.* | *The two doctors made|gave different diagnoses of my disease.* | *What is the doctor's diagnosis?* —compare PROGNOSIS (1)

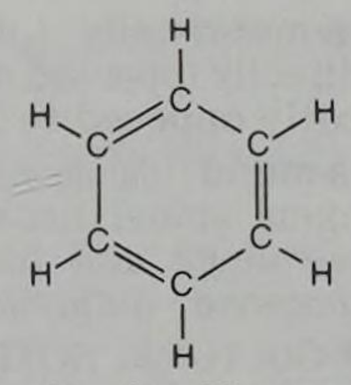
di·ag·nos·tic /ˌdaɪəg'nɒstɪk◂‖-'nɑ:-/ *adj* of or for diagnosing: *a diagnostic test*

di·ag·o·nal /daɪ'ægənəl/ *adj* **1** (of a straight line) joining two opposite corners of a square or other four-sided flat figure: *Draw a diagonal line to divide the square into two triangles.* **2** (of a line) following a sloping direction: *a cloth with a diagonal pattern* —**diagonal** *n* : *The two diagonals of a square cross in the centre.* —**~ly** *adv* : *The path goes diagonally across the field.*

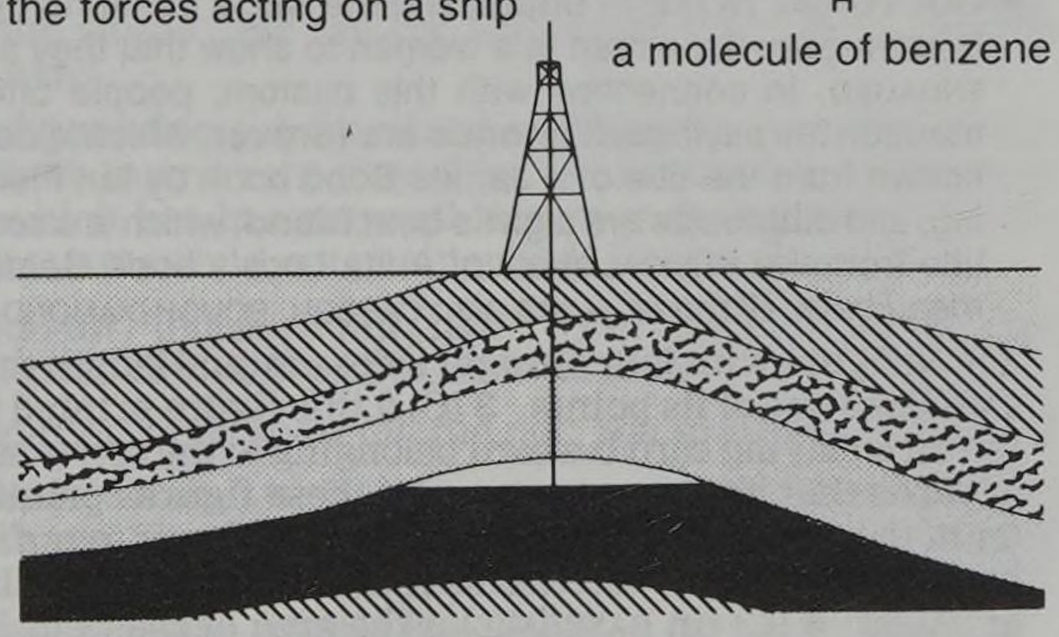
diagrams



the forces acting on a ship



a molecule of benzene



an oil well

see also pictures at **chart** and **plan**

di·a·gram /'daɪəgræm/ *n* a plan or figure drawn to explain a machine, idea, etc.; drawing which shows how something works rather than what it actually looks like: *a diagram of a railway system* | *The book uses simple diagrams to explain the rules of chess.* —**~matic** /ˌdaɪəgrə'mætɪk◂/ *adj : a diagrammatic representation of a molecule* —**~matically** /kli/ *adv*

dial[1] /daɪəl/ *n* **1** the face of an instrument, such as a clock, showing measurements by means of a pointer and figures —see also SUNDIAL **2** a wheel on a telephone with numbered holes for the fingers, which is moved round when one makes a telephone call. This type of telephone is now rarely found in Britain and the US, as now PUSH-BUTTON telephones are mostly used.

dial[2] *v* **-ll-** *BrE* ‖**-l-** *AmE* [I;T] to make a telephone call (to) by using a dial or similar apparatus, e.g. the set of PUSH BUTTONS on a modern telephone: *How do I dial Paris?* | *Put in the money before dialling.* —see TELEPHONE (USAGE)

di·a·lect /'daɪəlekt/ *n* [C;U] a variety of a language, spoken in one part of a country, which is different in some words

or grammar from other forms of the same language: *Kurdish has three major dialects.* | *a poem written in a Scottish dialect* —compare ACCENT¹ (1) —**~al** /ˌdaɪəˈlektl◂/ *adj* —**~ally** *adv*

di·a·lec·tic /ˌdaɪəˈlektɪk/ also **dialectics**— *n* [U] *tech* the art or method of arguing and examining ideas so as to reach the truth, according to certain rules of question and answer that were developed by Socrates, Plato, and Hegel —**~al** *adj* —**-tician** /ˌdaɪəlekˈtɪʃən/ *n*

dialling code /ˈ·· ·/ *BrE* ‖ **area code** *AmE*— *n* a telephone CODE¹ (3)

dialling tone /ˈ·· ·/ *BrE* ‖**dial tone** /ˈ· ·/*AmE*— *n* the sound made by a telephone receiver to show that one may now dial the number that one wants

di·a·logue *BrE*‖**-log** *AmE* /ˈdaɪəlɒg‖-lɔːg, -lɑːg/ *n* [C;U] **1** (a) written conversation in a book or play: *a short dialogue between Hamlet and the grave-digger* | *He's not very good at writing dialogue.* **2** (an) exchange of ideas and opinions, esp. between two countries, groups, etc., whose positions are opposed: *At last there can be (a) reasonable dialogue between our two governments.* —compare MONOLOGUE (2)

di·al·y·sis /daɪˈælɨsɨs/ *n* [U] *tech* a process by which solid substances can be separated from liquid, used esp. for making pure the blood of people whose KIDNEYS do not work properly

di·am·e·ter /daɪˈæmɨtəʳ/ *n* **1** (the length of) a straight line going from one side of a circle to the other side, passing through the centre of the circle: *The diameter of the circle is six centimetres.* | *The circle is six centimetres* **in diameter**. —compare RADIUS **2** *tech* a measurement of how many times bigger an object looks, when seen through a microscope or MAGNIFYING GLASS: *This microscope magnifies 20 diameters.*

di·a·met·ri·cally /ˌdaɪəˈmetrɪkli/ *adv* completely and directly (opposed or opposite): *My ideas are* **diametrically opposed to** (=completely different from) *hers.*

di·a·mond /ˈdaɪəmənd/ *n* **1** [C;U] a very hard valuable precious stone, usually colourless, which is used in jewellery and for cutting things: *and industrial diamond* | *a diamond mine*

►CULTURAL NOTE In Britain and the US, a diamond ring is often given by a man to a woman to show that they are ENGAGED. In connection with this custom, people often mention the sayings **diamonds are forever**, which is best known from the title of a James Bond book by Ian Fleming, and **diamonds are a girl's best friend**, which is a song title from the MUSICAL show of Anita Loos's book *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*. —see also CARBON, ROUGH DIAMOND◄

2 [C] a figure with four straight sides of equal length that stands on one of its points **3** [C] **a** this figure printed in red on a playing card **b** a card belonging to the SUIT (=set) of cards that have one or more of these figures printed on it: *the four|queen of diamonds* | *I've only got four diamonds in my hand.* —see CARDS (USAGE) and see picture at CARDS **4** [C] (in BASEBALL) **a** the area of the field inside the four BASES² (6) **b** the whole playing field —see picture at BASEBALL

Diamond, Neil /niːl/ (1941–) an American popular music singer and writer of songs

diamond in the rough /ˌ··· · ˈ·/ *n AmE for* ROUGH DIAMOND

diamond ju·bi·lee /ˌ··· ˈ···/ *n* the date that is exactly 60 years after the date of some important personal event, esp. of becoming a king or queen —compare GOLDEN JUBILEE, SILVER JUBILEE

diamond wed·ding /ˌ··· ˈ··/ also **diamond wedding an·ni·ver·sa·ry** /ˌ··· ˈ·· ··ˌ···/ ‖ also **diamond anniversary** /ˌ··· ··ˈ···/ *AmE*— *n* the date that is exactly 60 years after the date of a wedding —compare GOLDEN WEDDING, SILVER WEDDING

Di·an·a¹ /daɪˈænə/, (1961–) the wife of Prince Charles and the mother of Prince William and Prince Henry. Charles and Diana separated in 1992. Diana is well-known for being very attractive, very WELL-GROOMED, and very FEMININE. She is usu. called **the Princess of Wales** or **Princess Diana** in news broadcasts, etc., or sometimes **Diana**, esp. if Prince Charles has just been mentioned but her official title is **Diana, Princess of Wales**. **Princess Di** and **Di** are only used by people talking informally about her or by TABLOID newspapers —see also Prince CHARLES

Diana² in Roman MYTHOLOGY, the goddess of the hunt and the moon. She was the sister of Apollo. (Her Greek name was Artemis.)

di·a·per /ˈdaɪəpəʳ‖ˈdaɪpəʳ/ *n* **1** [C] *AmE for* NAPPY **2** [U] (fine cotton or LINEN cloth with) a pattern of straight lines which cross each other so as to form small DIAMOND (2) shapes

di·aph·a·nous /daɪˈæfənəs/ *adj* (esp. of cloth) so fine and thin that it can be seen through

di·a·phragm /ˈdaɪəfræm/ *n* **1 a** the muscle that separates the lungs from the stomach **b** the front part of the chest above the waist **2** any thin plate or piece of stretched material which makes or is moved by sound: *The diaphragm of a telephone is moved by the sound of the voice.* **3** a CAP¹ (6) **4** the group of small plates lying one above the other which control the amount of light entering a camera

di·a·rist /ˈdaɪərɨst/ *n* the writer of a DIARY (1): *Samuel Pepys was a famous English diarist of the 17th century.*

di·ar·rhoe·a , -rhe·a /ˌdaɪəˈrɪə/ *n* [U] an illness in which the bowels are emptied too often and in too liquid a form. People from the US and the West often suffer from diarrhoea when they go to other countries, because of the change in their food, water, etc., and they sometimes joke about this, saying they had **the runs**, **the trots**, **Delhi belly** (esp. in India), **Montezuma's revenge** (esp. in S America), etc.

di·a·ry /ˈdaɪəri/ *n* **1** (a book containing) a daily record of the events in a person's life. A diary is considered to be very personal, and reading someone else's diary without their permission is strongly disapproved of: *a lockable diary* | *Did you* **keep a diary** (=write a diary) *while you were travelling in Europe?* | *Her diary entry for 12th March reads simply "Saw him again."* —see also DIARIST; see JOURNAL (USAGE) **2** *BrE*‖**calendar** *AmE*— a book with marked separate spaces for each day of the year, in which one may write down things to be done in the future: *"Can you come on Wednesday?" "I'll just look in my diary to see if I'm free."* | *He made a note of the date in his diary.*

Diary of a No·bod·y /ˌ··· · · ˈ···/, **The** a book written in 1892 by two brothers, George and Weedon Grossmith, which covers 15 months of the life of Charles Pooter in the early 1890s and remains popular today

Di·as·po·ra /daɪˈæspərə/ also **Dispersion**— [*the*] (the Jews living in) the various countries outside ancient Palestine or modern Israel in which Jews are scattered: *the people|the countries of the Diaspora*

di·a·ton·ic scale /ˌdaɪətɒnɪk ˈskeɪl‖-tɑː-/ [*the*] a set of eight musical notes using a fixed pattern of spaces (INTERVALS) between the notes

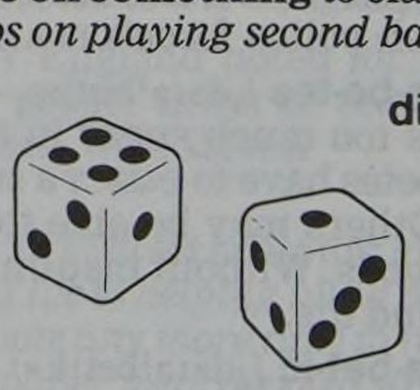
di·a·tribe /ˈdaɪətraɪb/ *n* [(**against**)] *fml* a long violent attack in speech or writing

dib·ble¹ /ˈdɪbəl/ also **dib·ber** /ˈdɪbəʳ/— *n* a small pointed hand tool which is used to make holes in the earth for small plants

dibble² *v* [T] **1** to plant (seeds or plants) with a dibble **2** to make holes in (the earth) with a dibble

dibs /dɪbz/ *n AmE infml* **have dibs on something** to claim something as yours: *I've got dibs on playing second base.*

dice¹ /daɪs/ *n* **dice** **1** [C] a small six-sided block of wood, plastic, etc., with a different number of spots from 1 to 6 on the various sides, used in games of chance: *to throw|cast the dice* | *a pair of dice* | *A dice|One of the dice has rolled under the table.* **2** [U] any game of chance which is played with these: *to play dice* **3 no dice** *infml, esp. AmE* **a** no use: *It was no dice.* **b** (used to show refusal): *"Will you just ask her for us?" – "No dice."*



dice

▷ USAGE The old singular form **die** is now rare, esp. in British English except in the saying **The die is cast** (=the decision or action has been taken and cannot now be changed).◁

dice² *v* **1** [T] to cut (food) into small square pieces: *The meat should be finely diced.* | *diced carrots* **2** [I (**for**)] to play dice with someone, for money, possessions, etc.:

They spent their time drinking and dicing. **3 dice with death** to take a great risk

dice sthg. ↔ **away** *phr v* [T] to lose (money or possessions) by playing dice: *He diced away all his money.*

dic·ey /ˈdaɪsi/ *adj infml, esp. BrE* risky and uncertain

di·chot·o·my /daɪˈkɒtəmi‖-ˈkɑː-/ *n* [(**between**)] *fml* a division into two esp. opposite parts or groups: *the growing dichotomy between the opponents and supporters of nuclear weapons*

dick /dɪk/ *n* **1** *taboo sl for* PENIS **2** *AmE old-fash sl* a PRIVATE DETECTIVE —see also CLEVER DICK, SPOTTED DICK

Dick and Jane /ˌ· · ˈ·/ two characters in American schoolbooks which teach children to read. Schoolbooks with stories about Dick and Jane are not used as much as they were in the 1950s and 1960s, because the stories are considered rather dull and because Dick and Jane are seen to represent only white, MIDDLE-CLASS values and a style of life which many Americans no longer share.

dick·ens /ˈdɪkɨnz/ *n* **the dickens** *euph infml, esp. BrE* (used for adding force to an expression) the devil: *What/Who/Where the dickens is that?*

Dickens, Charles (1812–70) an English NOVELIST, considered by many to be the greatest one of all. His many famous books describe life in Victorian England and show how hard it was, esp. for the poor and for children. They include *The Pickwick Papers*, *Oliver Twist*, *A Christmas Carol*, *David Copperfield*, *Great Expectations*, and *A Tale of Two Cities*.

Dic·ken·si·an /dɨˈkenziən/ *adj* suggesting Charles Dickens or his writings, e.g. **a** the old-fashioned, unpleasant dirtiness of Victorian England: *Most deputies work two to an office in a space of Dickensian grimness.* **b** the cheerfulness of Victorian amusements and customs: *a real Dickensian Christmas*

dick·er /ˈdɪkəʳ/ *v* [I (**for, with**)] *infml* to argue about the price for something one wants to buy; HAGGLE

dick·head /ˈdɪkhed/ *n taboo sl* a complete fool. This word is mostly used only by young people, and is a very strong word which is offensive to some people.

Dick·in·son /ˈdɪkɨnsən/, **Em·i·ly** /ˈemɨli/ (1830–86) an American poet who is sometimes called "The Belle of Amherst". She is also known for being a RECLUSE for the last 25 years of her life.

dick·y[1] /ˈdɪki/ *adj BrE infml* weak; likely to break or go wrong: *My father has a dicky heart.* | *Be careful up there! The ladder's a bit dicky.*

dicky[2] *n* **1** also **dickey** *AmE*– a false shirt-front **2** *esp. BrE* a small third seat at the back of an old-fashioned two-seat car

dick·y·bird /ˈdɪkibɜːd‖-bɜːrd/ *n esp. BrE* **1** (used esp. by or to children) any small bird **2** [*usu. in negatives*] *sl* a word; anything: *We haven't heard a dickybird from them since they moved house.*

dic·ta /ˈdɪktə/ *pl of* DICTUM

Dic·ta·phone /ˈdɪktəfəʊn/ *n tdmk* an office machine into which one can dictate

dic·tate[1] /dɪkˈteɪt‖ˈdɪkteɪt/ *v* **1** [I;T (**to**)] to say (words) for someone else to write down or for a machine to record: *He can't type so he dictates everything.* | *She dictated a letter to her secretary.* **2** [T (**to**)] to state (demands, conditions, etc.) with the power to make them happen: *We're now in a position to dictate our own demands (to the management).* [+*wh*-] *We can dictate how the money will be spent.* **3** [T] to have a controlling influence on; DETERMINE: *The amount of money available will dictate the type of computer we buy.*

dictate to sbdy. *phr v* [T *usu. in negatives*] to give orders to, esp. with an unreasonable show of power: *I refuse to be dictated to!* [+*wh*-] *We can't dictate to them how they should spend their money.*

dic·tate[2] /ˈdɪkteɪt/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] an order which should be obeyed, esp. one that comes from one's own mind: *to follow/obey the dictates of your own conscience*

dic·ta·tion /dɪkˈteɪʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the act of dictating or of writing down what is dictated: *a secretary* **taking dictation** | *Dictation makes my throat sore.* **2** [C] a piece of writing that is dictated to test one's ability to hear and write a foreign language correctly: *The teacher gave us two French dictations today.*

dic·ta·tor /dɪkˈteɪtəʳ‖ˈdɪkteɪtər/ *n often derog* a ruler who has complete power over a country, esp. if the power has been gained by force

dic·ta·to·ri·al /ˌdɪktəˈtɔːriəl◂/ *adj usu. derog* (of people or behaviour) of or like a dictator; TYRANNICAL: *a dictatorial ruler* | *dictatorial power* | *Don't be so dictatorial!* – ~**ly** *adv*

dic·ta·tor·ship /dɪkˈteɪtəʃɪp‖-ˈteɪtər-/ *n* **1** [C;U] (the period of) government by a dictator **2** [C] a country ruled by a dictator

dic·tion /ˈdɪkʃən/ *n* [U] **1** the way in which a person pronounces words: *Actors need training in diction.* **2** the choice of words and phrases to express meaning: *poetic diction* (=the use of special words in poetry)

dic·tion·a·ry /ˈdɪkʃənəri‖-neri/ *n* **1** a book that gives a list of words in alphabetical order, with their meanings in the same or another language and usu. their pronunciations: *This book is a dictionary.* | *a German-English dictionary* **2** a book like this that deals with words and phrases concerning a special subject: *a science dictionary* | *a dictionary of place names* —compare GLOSSARY, THESAURUS

Dictionary of Na·tion·al Bi·og·ra·phy /ˌ···· · ˌ··· ·ˈ···/, **The** also **DNB** (*abbrev.*) a book containing the life stories of all important British people from early times to today

dic·tum /ˈdɪktəm/ *n* **-ta** /-tə/ *or* **-tums** a formal statement of opinion, esp. made by a judge in court —see also OBITER DICTUM

did /dɪd/ *past tense of* DO —see NOT (USAGE)

di·dac·tic /daɪˈdæktɪk, dɨ-/ *adj fml* **1** (of speech or writing) intended to teach, esp. to teach a moral lesson: *didactic poetry* **2** *derog* (of a person) too eager to teach or give instructions – ~**ally** /kli/ *adv*

did·dle /ˈdɪdl/ *v* [T (**out of**)] *infml* to get something from (someone) by dishonest means; cheat

did·dums /ˈdɪdəmz/ *interj BrE* (a word used to a child to show that one is sorry that they are upset)

Did·dy·man /ˈdɪdimæn/ [*the*+P] **-men** /men/ a group of little people who appear in television and stage shows with the COMEDIAN Ken Dodd, singing a song which includes the words "We are the Diddymen who live in Knotty Ash"

did·ger·i·doo /ˌdɪdʒəriˈduː/ *n* **didgeridoos** a long WOODWIND instrument played by the Australian Aborigines, which has become well-known in Britain because the COMEDIAN and entertainer Rolf Harris played it

Did·i·on /ˈdɪdiən/, **Joan** (1934–) an American writer best known for *A Book of Common Prayer*

did·n't /ˈdɪdnt/ *short for:* did not: *You saw him, didn't you?*

Di·do /ˈdaɪdəʊ/ in Roman MYTHOLOGY, the queen of Carthage. She killed herself rather than marry the king of Libya, although Virgil in his *Aeneid* makes her kill herself because Aeneas leaves her.

didst /dɪdst/ **thou didst** *old use or bibl* (when talking to one person) you did

die[1] /daɪ/ *v* **died,** *present participle* **dying** /ˈdaɪ-ɪŋ/ **1** [I (**of**);L] (of people, animals, and plants) to stop living; become dead: *She's very ill and I'm afraid she's dying.* | *He died in his sleep.* (=while he was sleeping) | *Three hundred people died in the air crash.* | *She died of cancer/of hunger.* | (fig.) *His secret died with him.* (=was lost when he died) | (fig.) *My love for you will never die.* | *He died happy.* | *She died a rich woman.* | *to die by one's own hand* (=kill oneself) | *It was her* **dying wish** (=a wish made as she was dying) *to be buried next to her husband.* —see DEAD[1] (CULTURAL NOTE) **2** [I] (of a machine) to stop operating suddenly: *The engine spluttered a few times, then died.* | *The phone just* **died on me** *while I was in the middle of a conversation.* **3 be dying for/to** *infml* to have a great wish for/to: *I'm dying for a cigarette.* | *We're all dying to hear what happened.* **4 die a ... death** to die in a particular way: *They died a horrible death.* **5 die hard** (of old beliefs, customs, etc.) to take a long time to disappear —see also DIEHARD **6 die in one's bed** to die quietly at home of old age or illness rather than because of an accident, in war, etc. **7 die (the death) of a thousand cuts** to be killed or destroyed very slowly, as if bleeding to death through many small wounds: *Immediate action is needed before legal and advice services die of*

a thousand cuts. **8 die with one's boots on** to die while still working or fighting **9 never say die** never admit that you have been defeated and are unable to do something; a phrase used to encourage someone and make them more cheerful: *"I've got no chance, then." "Come on, now, never say die! We still haven't tried asking your father."* **10 to one's dying day** as long as one lives: *I'll remember that awful sight to my dying day.* —see also **do or die** (DO²)

die away *phr v* [I] (esp. of sound, wind, light) to become gradually less and less and finally stop

die back *phr v* [I] (of a plant) to die but remain alive in the roots

die down *phr v* [I] (of physical qualities and feelings) to become less strong or violent; SUBSIDE (3): *The fire/The wind is dying down.* | *The excitement soon died down.*

die off *phr v* [I] (of a group of living things) to die one by one: *As she got older and older, her relatives all died off.*

die out *phr v* [I] (of families, races, customs, and ideas) to disappear completely; become EXTINCT: *The practice of children working in factories has nearly died out.*

die² *n* **1** a metal block used for shaping metal, plastic, etc. **2** *old or AmE singular of* DICE¹ (1) **3 The die is cast** the decision or action has been taken and cannot now be changed —see DICE (USAGE)

die-cast·ing /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* [C;U] (something made by) the process of making metal objects by forcing (not pouring) the liquid metal under pressure into a MOULD (=a hollow container)

die·hard /ˈdaɪhɑːd‖-hɑːrd/ *n* a person who opposes change and refuses to accept new ideas even when they are good: *a diehard conservative* | *It's no good asking him to join the union; he's a real diehard.* —see also **die hard** (DIE¹)

Di·eppe /diˈep/ a port in N France. FERRY¹ services operate from here to Newhaven in England.

di·e·re·sis /ˌdaɪˈɪərɨsɨs, -ˈe-‖-ˈe-/ *n* **-ses** /siːz/ DIAERESIS

die·sel /ˈdiːzəl/ also **diesel fu·el** /ˈ·· ˌ··/, **diesel oil** /ˈ··ˌ·/— *n* **1** [U] a type of heavy oil used instead of petrol, etc. in DIESEL ENGINES **2** [C] *infml, esp. AmE* a vehicle driven by diesel

diesel en·gine /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* an engine that burns diesel instead of petrol, often used for buses, trains, and goods vehicles. More cars are also beginning to have diesel engines now, as diesel is a cheaper and less wasteful FUEL than petrol. It is also safer if there is an accident, and causes less POLLUTION.

di·et¹ /ˈdaɪət/ *n* **1** [C;U] the sort of food and drink usually taken by a person or group: *A balanced diet and regular exercise are both important for health.* | *The poor people in Ireland used to live on a diet of potatoes.*

►CULTURAL NOTE In recent years, people in both Britain and the US have become concerned with eating a more healthy diet. This generally means eating more FIBRE, less fat, less salt, and less sugar.◄

2 [C] a limited list of food and drink that a person is allowed, e.g. one that is controlled for medical reasons: *The doctor ordered him to* **go on a diet** *to lose weight.* | *a high-fibre diet* | *a low-fat diet* | *I'm finding it impossible to stick to my diet.*

►CULTURAL NOTE Some British and American people, particularly young women, go on diets to lose weight and make themselves SLIM and therefore, they think, more attractive. Other people, esp. people who do not do this to themselves, often joke about them eating just LETTUCE leaves, CARROTS, etc. Every year many new books appear containing the latest fashionable diet plans.◄

diet² *v* [I] to eat according to a special diet, esp. in order to become thinner and so more attractive: *No sugar in my coffee, please; I'm dieting.* —see also DIETER

diet³ *n* **1** a meeting to talk about political or church matters **2** (*often cap.*) (in certain countries) a parliament

di·e·ta·ry /ˈdaɪətəri‖-teri/ *adj* of or concerning diet: *religious dietary rules*

dietary fi·bre /ˌ···· ˈ··/ *n fml for* FIBRE (2)

diet co·la /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a CARBONATED dark-coloured DIET DRINK

diet drink /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* a non-alcoholic drink, usu. CARBONATED, which contains very few CALORIES, drunk esp. by people who do not want to put on any weight

di·et·er /ˈdaɪətəʳ/ *n* a person who diets or is dieting

di·e·tet·ics /ˌdaɪəˈtetɪks/ *n* [U] the science of diet and its effects on health —**dietetic** /ˌdaɪəˈtetɪk◂/ *adj* : *dietetic studies*

di·e·ti·cian, -tian /ˌdaɪəˈtɪʃən/ *n* a person trained in dietetics

Die·trich /ˈdiːtrɪk, -ɪx/, **Mar·le··ne** /mɑːˈleɪnə‖mɑːr-/ (1904–92) an American actress and night club performer, born in Germany who usu. played the part of an extremely sexually attractive woman. She is best remembered for her part in the film *Blue Angel.*

Marlene Dietrich



Dieu et mon droit /ˌdjɜː eɪ mɒn ˈdrwɑː‖ˌdjʊ eɪ mɑːn ˈdwɑː/ *Fr* God and my right; the phrase belonging to the British royal family's COAT OF ARMS

dif·fer /ˈdɪfəʳ/ *v* [I] **1** [(**from, in**)] to be dissimilar in nature, character, type, etc.; be different: *Their house differs from mine in having no garage.* | *The two squares differ in colour but not in size.* **2** [(**with, about, on, over**)] (of people) to have an opposite opinion; disagree: *The two sides in the dispute still differ (with each other) over the question of pay.* | *You can't persuade me to change my mind about this – we'll just have to* **agree to differ.** (=accept that we have different opinions) **3 I beg to differ** *fml* I disagree with you

dif·fe·rence /ˈdɪfərəns/ *n* [(**between**)] **1** [C] a way of being dissimilar; something that makes one thing different from another: *There are many differences between living in a city and living in the country.* **2** [S;U] the fact of being different, or an amount by which one thing is different from another: *There's a big difference between understanding a language and being able to speak it.* | *I can't see much difference between these two books.* | *The difference in price was only £10 so we decided to take the plane.* | *It doesn't* **make any difference/the slightest difference** *to me whether you go or stay.* (=I don't care at all) | *When you're learning to drive, having a good teacher* **makes a big difference/makes all the difference.** (=has a noticeable or valuable effect) **3** [C *often pl.*] a slight disagreement: *They've settled their differences and are friends again.* | *They had* **a difference of opinion** *over who should drive, but Sue won in the end.* —see also **split the difference** (SPLIT¹)

dif·fe·rent /ˈdɪfərənt/ *adj* **1** [(**from, than, to**)] unlike; not the same or of the same kind: *Mary and Jane are quite different (from each other/to each other).* | *She looks different with her hair short.* **2** separate; other; DISTINCT: *This is a different car from the one I drove yesterday.* | *Their three children all go to different schools.* (=they do not all go to the same one) | *I've started using a different* (=another) *brand.* | *We make this dress in three different colours.* **3** various; several: *Different members of the party complimented her on her speech.* **4** *infml, sometimes derog* unusual; special: *"What do you think of our new carpet?" "Well, it's certainly different."* **5 and now for something completely different** *quote* a phrase regularly used in the British television programme *Monty Python's Flying Circus.* It is now used to suggest that something very strange and funny is about to happen —see also MONTY PYTHON — **~ly** *adv*

▷USAGE 1 Teachers prefer **different(ly) from,** but **different(ly) to** *BrE* and **different(ly) than** *AmE* are also commonly used. 2 Compare **different** and **various.** Both mean "not the same" but **various** is used about several things which are not the same: *The minister gave* **various** *reasons* (=a number of different reasons) *for the government's decision.* | *This time the minister gave* **different** *reasons* (=not the same as last time) *for the government's decision.*◁

dif·fe·ren·tial¹ /ˌdɪfəˈrenʃəl◂/ *n* **1** an amount or degree of difference between things, esp. difference in wages between people doing jobs of different types in the same industry or profession: *The management are keen to maintain existing pay differentials.* **2** a DIFFERENTIAL GEAR

differential² *adj* based on or depending on a difference: *differential rates of pay/tax according to one's income*

differential cal·cu·lus /ˌ···· ˈ···/ *n* [(*the*) U] (in MATHEMATICS) a way of measuring the speed at which an object is moving at a particular moment; one of the two ways of making calculations about quantities which are continually changing —compare INTEGRAL CALCULUS

differential gear /ˌ···· ˈ·/ *n* an arrangement of GEARS that allows one back wheel of a car to turn faster than the other when the car goes round a corner

dif·fe·ren·ti·ate /ˌdɪfəˈrenʃieɪt/ *v* **1** [I (**between**);T (**from**)] to see or express a difference (between); DISTINGUISH or DISCRIMINATE: *This company does not differentiate between men and women – everyone is paid at the same rate.* | *Can you differentiate this kind of rose from the others?* **2** [T (**from**)] (of a quality) to make different by its presence: *What differentiates these two products?* | *Its unusual nesting habits differentiate this bird from others.* —**-ation** /ˌdɪfərenʃiˈeɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

dif·fi·cult /ˈdɪfɪkəlt/ *adj* **1** needing a lot of effort, skill, etc.; hard to do, make, understand, or deal with; not easy: *English is difficult|is a difficult language.* | *a difficult exam* [+*to-v*] *It was a difficult choice to make.* | *It was difficult (for us) to decide which one to buy.* **2** (of people) hard to deal with; not easy to please or persuade; OBSTINATE: *a difficult child* | *She's just being difficult.* **3** full of problems; causing unhappiness, anxiety, etc.: *The educational system has been going through a difficult time owing to cuts in public expenditure.* | *His angry employees did their best to* **make life difficult** *for him.* (=cause problems for him) —see UNEASY (USAGE)

dif·fi·cul·ty /ˈdɪfɪkəlti/ *n* **1** [U (**in**)] the fact or quality of being difficult; trouble: *She had great difficulty in understanding him.* | *His English was very bad and he spoke with difficulty.* | *We managed to finish it without much|any difficulty.* **2** [C *often pl.*] something difficult; a situation or problem that causes trouble: *He's having financial difficulties.* | *When sales slowed down, the company* **got into difficulties**.

dif·fi·dent /ˈdɪfɨdənt/ *adj* [(**about**)] **1** lacking a belief in one's own qualities and abilities, and therefore unwilling to speak or act with confidence: *He is rather diffident about expressing his opinions.* **2** RESERVED¹ —**~ly** *adv* —**-dence** *n* [U]

dif·fract /dɪˈfrækt/ *v* [T] *tech* to break up (a beam of light) into the SPECTRUM (=a number of dark and light or coloured bands) —**~ion** /dɪˈfrækʃən/ *n* [U]

dif·fuse¹ /dɪˈfjuːz/ *v* [I;T] *fml* to (cause to) spread out freely in all directions; DISPERSE: *to diffuse knowledge|a smell|a feeling of happiness* —**-fusion** /dɪˈfjuːʒən/ *n* [U] : *Clouds cause the diffusion of light from the sun.*

dif·fuse² /dɪˈfjuːs/ *adj fml* **1** diffused: *Direct light is better for reading than diffuse light.* **2** *derog* using too many words and not keeping to the point: *a diffuse speech|writer* —**~ly** *adv* —**~ness** *n* [U]

dig¹ /dɪg/ *v* **dug** /dʌg/; *present participle* **digging** **1** [I;T] to break up and move (earth), esp. using a spade: *to dig the garden* | *The dog has been digging in that corner for an hour.* | *to dig for gold* (=look for it by digging) **2** [I;T] to make (a hole) by taking away the earth: *to dig a hole* | *We shall have to dig under the river|through the mountain to lay this pipe.* | *The prisoners escaped by digging an underground tunnel.* —see also DIGGER, DIGGINGS **3** [T] to uncover (esp. root vegetables) by taking away the earth: *to dig potatoes* **4** [T] *old-fash sl* to like and understand; APPRECIATE: *I really dig the way she sings.* **5 dig for victory** a phrase used in Britain during the Second World War to encourage people to grow their own fruit and vegetables in order to help Britain win the war **6 dig one's own grave** to cause one's own failure, ruin, or death: *You're just digging your own grave if you go on smoking so heavily.* **7 dig someone in the ribs** to touch someone with one's elbow, esp. to share a joke

dig in *phr v* **1** [T] (**dig** sthg. ↔ **in**) to mix (something) into the soil by digging: *to dig in some fertilizer|dig some fertilizer into the soil* **2** [I;T (=**dig** sbdy. **in**)] to make a protective place for (oneself) by digging: *The soldiers were ordered to dig (themselves) in.* **3** [T] (**dig** sbdy. **in**) *infml* to establish (oneself) in a position; get (oneself) firmly settled: *I like my new job but I haven't had time to dig myself in yet.* | *I'm well dug in now.* **4** [I] *infml* to help oneself to food and start eating; TUCK **in:** *Here's your breakfast, so dig in!* **5 dig one's heels in** *infml* to refuse to change one's mind or do what others want

dig into *phr v* [T] **1** (**dig** sthg. **into** sbdy./sthg.) to push into: *to dig a fork into the meat* **2** (**dig into** sthg.) to examine thoroughly: *The police are digging into all the old files connected with this case.*

dig sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T (**of**)] **1** to get out by digging; free from being buried: *to dig the car out of the snow* **2** to find by searching: *I dug out these old trousers to give to the boy.* | *By careful questioning they managed to dig out the information they were looking for.*

dig sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] **1** to find or take out of the ground by digging: *We dug up the rose bushes and planted some cabbages.* **2** to find (something hidden or forgotten) by careful searching; UNEARTH: *Her political opponents dug up a scandal from her past.*

dig² *n infml* **1** a quick push; POKE: *John's falling asleep – just give him a dig!* | (fig.) *That last remark was a dig at me.* (=made in order to annoy me) **2** a process of digging up an ancient place, town, or building so that it can be studied by students of ancient times: *to go on an archaeological dig* —see also DIGS

di·gest¹ /daɪˈdʒest, dɨ-/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) be changed after eating into a form that the body can use: *Mary can't digest fat.* | *Cheese doesn't digest easily.* **2** [T] to think about and understand the meaning or importance of; ASSIMILATE (2): *It took me some time to digest what I had heard.* —compare INGEST —**~ible** *adj*

di·gest² /ˈdaɪdʒest/ *n* a short account of a piece of writing which gives the most important facts: *a digest of Roman laws*

di·ges·tion /daɪˈdʒestʃən, dɨ-/ *n* [C;U] the act of digesting or the ability to digest food: *He has a good|weak digestion.* | *This rich food is bad for your digestion.* —compare INDIGESTION

di·ges·tive /daɪˈdʒestɪv, dɨ-/ *adj* [A] connected with or helping in the digesting of food: *the digestive processes* | *the human digestive system*

digestive bis·cuit /·ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* (in Britain) a type of plain slightly sweet BISCUIT, sometimes eaten with cheese

dig·ger /ˈdɪgəʳ/ *n* a person or machine that digs

dig·gings /ˈdɪgɪŋz/ *n* [P] **1** a place where people dig for metal, esp. gold **2** *old-fash for* DIGS

di·git /ˈdɪdʒɨt/ *n* **1** any of the numbers from 0 to 9: *The number 2001 contains four digits.* **2** *fml* a finger or toe

di·gi·tal /ˈdɪdʒɨtl/ *adj* **1** of or based on a system in which information is represented in the form of changing electrical signals: *a high-quality digital sound recording* **2** showing quantity in the form of numbers, rather than as a point on a scale, etc.: *a digital watch* | *a digital reading* **3** *fml* of the fingers and toes —**~ly** *adv*

digital au·di·o tape /ˌ··· ˈ··· ˌ·/ *n* [U] see DAT

digital clock /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* a clock which shows the time as a line of numbers usu. on the 24 hour system instead of having two hands point to the numbers —see picture at CLOCK

digital com·pact cas·sette /ˌ··· ˌ·· ·ˈ·/ also **DCC** (*abbrev.*). **digital cassette** /ˌ··· ·ˈ·/ *n* a container holding sound that has been digitally recorded

digital com·pact cas·sette play·er /ˌ··· ˌ·· ·ˈ· ˌ··/ **digital cassette player** /ˌ··· ·ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a machine for playing digital compact cassettes

digital com·pact disc /ˌ··· ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* a COMPACT DISC on which sound is recorded in the form of changing electrical signals (digitally)

digital com·put·er /ˌ··· ·ˈ··/ *n* a type of computer, now the most common type, that performs operations by using a BINARY system —compare ANALOGUE COMPUTER

digital re·cord·ing /ˌ··· ·ˈ··/ *n* **1** (the act of) recording using a system of numbers instead of sound waves **2** a recording made in this way

di·gi·tize also **-tise** *BrE* /ˈdɪdʒɨtaɪz/ *v* [T] to put (information) into a digital form —**tizer** *n* —**tization** /ˌdɪdʒɨtaɪˈzeɪʃən‖-tə-/ *n* [U]

dig·ni·fied /ˈdɪgnɨfaɪd/ *adj* having or showing dignity: *a dignified manner* | *a dignified old man* —opposite **undignified**

dig·ni·fy /ˈdɪgnɨfaɪ/ *v* [T (**by, with**)] to give dignity or importance to (esp. something that does not deserve it): *Don't try to dignify those few hairs on your face by calling them a beard!*

dig·ni·ta·ry /ˈdɪgnɨtəri‖-teri/ *n fml* a person holding a high position, esp. in public life: *Many of the local dignitaries attended the funeral.*

dig·ni·ty /ˈdɪgnɨti/ *n* **1** [U] calmness, formality, and seriousness of manner or style: *The dignity of the occasion was spoilt when she fell down the steps.* **2** [U] goodness and nobleness of character, of a kind that makes people feel respect and admiration: *an old lady of great dignity* **3** [C] a high position, rank, or title **4 beneath one's dignity** below one's standard of social or moral behaviour —see also INDIGNITY, **stand on one's dignity** (STAND[1] (26))

di·graph /ˈdaɪgrɑːf‖-græf/ *n tech* a pair of letters that represent one sound, such as *"ea"* in *"head"* and *"ph"* in *"phrase"*

di·gress /daɪˈgres/ *v* [I (**from**)] *fml* (of a writer or speaker) to turn aside from the main subject or line of argument and talk about something else: *I'll tell you a funny story, if I may digress (from my subject) for a moment.* —**~ion** /ˈgreʃən/ *n* [C;U (**from**)] : *several long digressions (from the subject) in this chapter*

digs /dɪgz/ *n* [P] *BrE infml* one or more rented furnished rooms; LODGINGS: *When his family left London, Tom moved into digs.*

Di·jon /ˈdiːʒɒn‖diːˈʒɑːn/ a city in E central France with food and drink industries, famous esp. for its MUSTARD

dike[1] , dyke /daɪk/ *n* **1** a wall or bank built to keep back water and prevent flooding. In an old story, a little Dutch boy saved his area from being flooded by putting his finger in a hole in a dike to stop the water coming through: *The government's policy is a bit like sticking your finger in the dike when the hole's already quite big.* —compare DAM[1] **2** *esp. BrE* a narrow passage dug to carry water away; DITCH **3** *ScotE* a wall, esp. round a field

dike[2] , dyke *n sl, usu. derog* a woman who is sexually attracted to other women; LESBIAN

dik·tat /dɪkˈtæt/ *n often derog* **1** [C] an order forced on people by a ruler or a country which has beaten them in a war **2** [U] the practice of giving such orders: *government by diktat*

di·lap·i·dat·ed /dɨˈlæpɨdeɪtɨd/ *adj* (of things) in bad condition because of age or lack of care; falling to pieces: *a dilapidated old car|castle*

di·lap·i·da·tion /dɨˌlæpɨˈdeɪʃən/ *n* [U] the state of being dilapidated

di·lap·i·da·tions /dɨˌlæpɨˈdeɪʃənz/ *n* [P] *BrE law* the money that one must pay for damage done to a furnished house that one has been renting

di·late /daɪˈleɪt/ *v* [I;T] **a** (of parts of the body, esp. the eyes) to become wider or further open by stretching: *Her eyes dilated with terror.* **b** to cause to become wider or further open: *The cat dilated its eyes.* —**-lation** /daɪˈleɪʃən/ *n* [U]
dilate on/upon sthg. *phr v* [T] *fml* to speak or write at length on (a subject)

dil·a·to·ry /ˈdɪlətəri‖-tɔːri/ *adj fml* (of people or their behaviour) slow in action; showing a tendency to delay: *I must apologize for being so dilatory in replying to your letter.*

dil·do /ˈdɪldəʊ/ *n* **-dos** an object shaped like a PENIS (=male sex organ) that can be placed inside a woman's VAGINA for sexual pleasure

di·lem·ma /dɨˈlemə, daɪ-/ *n* a situation in which one has to make a difficult choice between two courses of action, both perhaps equally undesirable: *She was in a dilemma as to whether to stay at school or get a job. | Their offer has put me in a bit of a dilemma.* —see also **on the horns of a dilemma** (HORN)

dil·et·tan·te /ˌdɪlɨˈtænti‖-ˈtɑːnti/ *n* **-tes** *or* **-ti** /ti/ *usu. derog* a person who studies or has an interest in some activity, such as an art or branch of knowledge, but does not take it very seriously —compare AMATEUR —**dilettante** *adj*

dil·i·gence /ˈdɪlɨdʒəns/ *n* **1** [U] the quality of being diligent **2** [C] (in former times) a public carriage pulled by horses

dil·i·gent /ˈdɪlɨdʒənt/ *adj* (of people or their behaviour) hardworking; showing steady careful effort: *He's not especially clever, but he's a diligent worker and should do well in the examinations. | Diligent police inquiries eventually turned up some clues.* —**~ly** *adv*

dill /dɪl/ *n* [U] a plant whose seeds are used to give a rather sharp taste to food

Dil·lin·ger /ˈdɪlɪndʒəʳ/, **John** (1903–34) an American bank robber and murderer who terrorized the Midwest. He was declared Public Enemy Number One by the FBI in 1925 and was shot dead by FBI men in Chicago as he was leaving a theatre.

Dil·lon's /ˈdɪlənz/ one of a group of British bookshops

dill pick·le /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* a CUCUMBER which has been preserved whole, often served with SANDWICHes. Thin pieces of dill pickle are called **dill slices**.

dil·ly /ˈdɪli/ *n AmE infml* something exciting or remarkable: *a dilly of a rollercoaster*

dil·ly-dal·ly /ˈdɪliˌdæli/ *v* [I] *infml* to waste time, esp. by being unable to make up one's mind or by stopping often in the middle of doing something

di·lute[1] /daɪˈluːt/ *v* [T (**with**)] to make (a liquid) weaker and thinner by mixing another liquid with it: *I diluted the paint with a little oil. | Dilute the orange juice with six parts of water.* | (fig.) *The President's influence has been further diluted* (=reduced) *by the election of fifteen new senators from the opposition party.* —**-lution** /ˈluːʃən/ *n* [C;U (**with**)] : *the illegal dilution of beer | a dilution of one part of anti-freeze to two parts of water*

di·lute[2] /ˌdaɪˈluːt◂/ *adj* that has been diluted: *dilute sulphuric acid*

dim[1] /dɪm/ *adj* **1** (of a light) not bright: *The light is too dim for me to read easily.* | (fig.) *Prospects for any early settlement of the dispute are dim.* (=are not good) **2** not easy to see; INDISTINCT: *the dim shape of a large building in the mist* **3** (of the eyes) not able to see clearly: *The old man's eyesight was dim.* **4** *infml, esp. BrE* slow to learn or understand; stupid **5** not clear in the mind: *a dim awareness that something was wrong* **6 take a dim view of** *infml* to regard with disapproval —**~ly** *adv* : *dimly aware of a slight tapping sound* —**~ness** *n* [U]

dim[2] *v* **-mm-** **1** [I;T] to make or become dim: *The lights in the theatre began to dim. | The smoke dimmed his eyes.* **2** [T] *AmE* ‖ **dip** *BrE*— to change (the HEADLIGHTS of a car) so that they are less bright: *Dim your lights, there's a car coming.*

Di Mag·gi·o /də ˈmædʒiəʊ/, **Joe** /dʒəʊ/ (1914–) an American BASEBALL player who played for the New York Yankees team and was considered to be one of the greatest players of all time. He was the second husband of Marilyn Monroe.

Dim·ble·by /ˈdɪmbəlbi/, **Richard** (1913–65) an English broadcaster famous for his reporting of important public events such as the CORONATION of Queen Elizabeth and the funeral of Winston Churchill. He had a very recognizable voice and a serious style of speaking.

dime /daɪm/ *n* **1** a coin of the US and Canada, worth ten cents or one tenth of a dollar —compare CENT **2 a dime a dozen** *AmE infml* not at all unusual or valuable —see also **ten a penny** (TEN)

dime nov·el /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n AmE* a small, cheap book containing a very eventful story, esp. one printed in the late 1800s and early 1900s

di·men·sion /daɪˈmenʃən, dɨ-/ *n* **1** a measurement in any one direction, esp. as used for establishing the position of something in space: *Length is one dimension, and breadth is another. | Time is sometimes called the* **fourth dimension**. **2** a particular side or part of a problem, subject, etc.; ASPECT: *There is another dimension to this problem which you haven't considered.* **3 -dimensional** /daɪˈmenʃənəl, dɨ-/ having the stated number of dimensions: *three-dimensional objects* —see also THREE-D

di·men·sions /daɪˈmenʃənz, dɨ-/ *n* [P (**of**)] (measurements of) size: *What are the dimensions of this room?* (=its height, length, and width) | (fig.) *a problem of enormous dimensions*

dime store /ˈ· ·/ also **five-and-dime** *n AmE* FIVE-AND-TEN

di·min·ish /dɨˈmɪnɪʃ/ *v* **1** [I; T] to (cause to) become or seem smaller: *His illness diminished his strength. | the government's diminishing popularity* **2** [T] to cause to seem less important or valuable

diminished re·spon·si·bil·i·ty /·ˌ·· ···ˈ···/ *n* [U] *law* (in judging a person who has killed someone) limitation of

criminal responsibility for the killing because of disorder or illness of the mind

diminishing re·turns /ˌ··· ·ˈ·/ *n* [P] *tech* a rate of profit that beyond a certain point stops increasing in relation to the increase of work or effort: *the law of diminishing returns* | (fig.) *The more I do for my son the less he thanks me – it's a case of diminishing returns.*

di·min·u·en·do /dɪˌmɪnjuˈendəʊ/ *n, adj, adv* **-dos** (a piece of music) getting softer –opposite **crescendo**

dim·i·nu·tion /ˌdɪmɪˈnjuːʃən‖-ˈnuː-/ *n* [C;U] *fml* a case or the state of diminishing or being diminished: *a diminution in income*

di·min·u·tive[1] /dɪˈmɪnjʊtɪv/ *adj fml* very small, and sometimes also lovable

diminutive[2] *n* a word formed by adding a diminutive suffix: *The word "duckling" is a diminutive, formed from "duck".*

diminutive suf·fix /ˌ··· ˈ··/ *n tech* an ending which is added to a word to express smallness: *A duckling is a small duck, and "-ling" is a diminutive suffix.*

dim·i·ty /ˈdɪmɪti/ *n* [U] *rare* strong cotton cloth with a raised pattern

dim·mer /ˈdɪməʳ/ also **dimmer switch** /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* a piece of equipment for controlling the brightness of an electric light

dim·ple /ˈdɪmpəl/ *n apprec* a small hollow place on the skin, esp. one formed in the cheek when a person smiles. Dimples are usu. considered attractive.

dim sum /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* [P;U] any of various Chinese foods typically consisting of small pieces of meat or vegetables wrapped in rice or a kind of light bread and cooked in steam or hot oil; a popular lunchtime meal

dim·wit /ˈdɪmwɪt/ *n infml* a stupid person: *Don't sit on the butter, (you) dimwit!* –**dim-witted** /ˌ· ˈ··◂/ *adj*

din[1] /dɪn/ *n derog* a loud, continuous, confused, and unpleasant noise: *to* **kick up** (=make) **a din**

din[2] *v* **-nn-** [I] (of a sound) to be heard loudly and unpleasantly (esp. in the phrase **din in someone's ears**): (fig.) *What she said about me was dinning in my ears all night.*

din sthg. **into** sbdy. *phr v* [T] *infml* to repeat (something, such as a fact or lesson) forcefully over and over again to (someone) as a way of making them remember: *I ought to remember that rule. I had it dinned into me often enough at school.*

di·nar /ˈdiːnɑːʳ‖dɪˈnɑːr, ˈdiːnɑːr/ *n* a unit of money used in the former Yugoslavia and in several Muslim countries

dine /daɪn/ *v* [I] *fml* to eat dinner: *We dined at the Ritz.* –see also **wine and dine** (WINE[2])

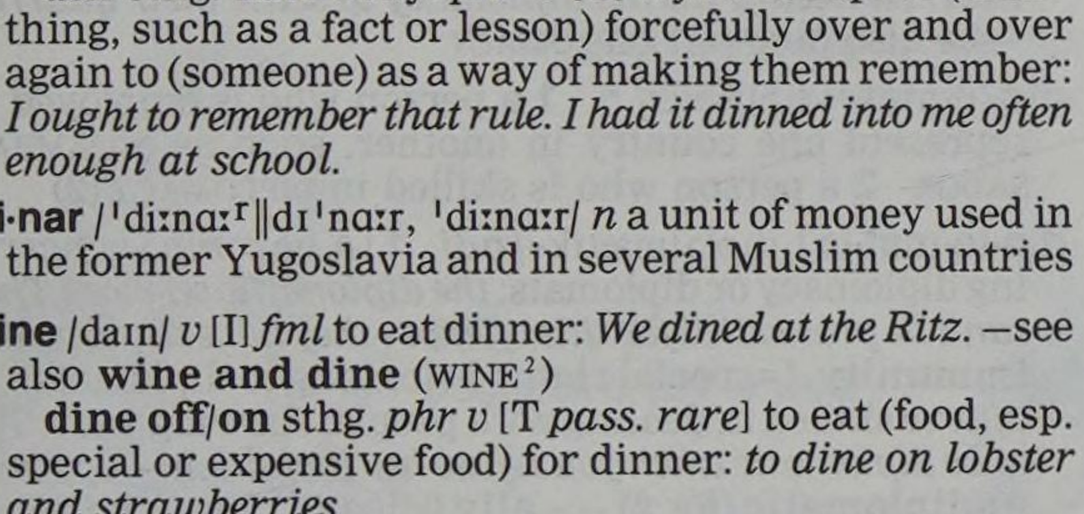
dine off/on sthg. *phr v* [T *pass. rare*] to eat (food, esp. special or expensive food) for dinner: *to dine on lobster and strawberries*

dine out *phr v* [I] to eat dinner away from home, esp. in a restaurant

dine out on sthg. *phr v* [T *pass. rare*] to talk about (an interesting experience one has had or interesting information one knows) in order to attract attention or admiration: *Ever since he met Paul McCartney at a party, he's been dining out on the story.*

Dine, Jim /dʒɪm/ (1935–) an American painter well-known as a leader of the POP ART movement

American diner



din·er /ˈdaɪnəʳ/ *n* **1** a person who dines, esp. in a restaurant **2** *AmE* a (style of) restaurant which is typically American, esp. common in country areas. Diners are very informal, cheap, and popular with families, for breakfast, LUNCH, and dinner. Customers sit in BOOTHS (3) of VINYL, or may sit at the bar for their meal. Waitresses wear a uniform and a white APRON, and offer country-style meals such as soup, HAM, mashed (MASH) potatoes and GRAVY, and ice-cream sodas, as well as the usual HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS, and SANDWICHES. **3** *AmE for* DINING CAR

Diners Card /ˈ·· ·/ also **Diner's Club Card** /ˈ·· · ˌ·/ *n tdmk* the name of a type of CHARGE CARD

Din·e·sen /ˈdɪnɪsən/, **I·sak** /ˈaɪzək/ *tdmk* (1885–1962) a Danish writer who wrote many books in English. Her real name was Karen Blixen and one of her most famous books was *Out of Africa*, which was made into a film.

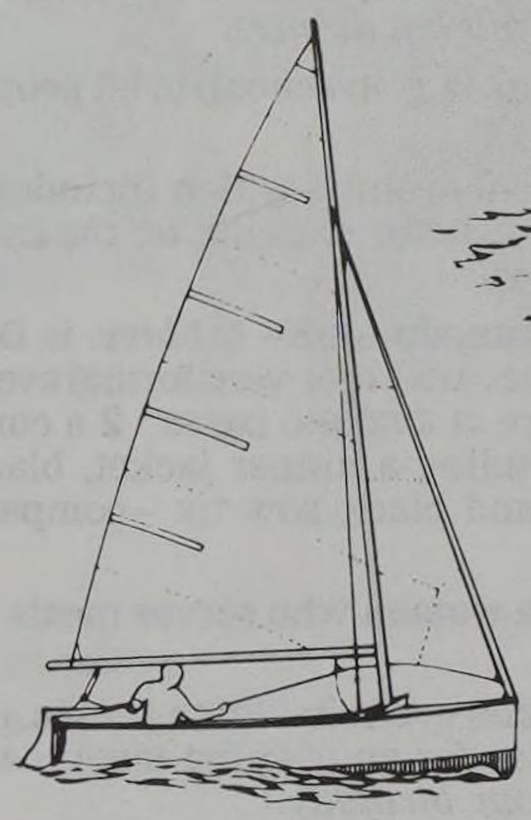
di·nette /daɪˈnet/ *n AmE* **1** a small dining area which is usually in or near the kitchen: *We haven't got a dining room, only a dinette.* **2** also **dinette set** a table and matching chairs used when people have meals. A dinette is cheaper than a DINING TABLE and chairs, but not as nice.

ding-a-ling /ˈdɪŋ ə lɪŋ/ *n AmE infml* a stupid, confused person

ding·bat /ˈdɪŋbæt/ *n AmE infml* a stupid, confused person, especially a woman

ding·dong /ˌdɪŋˈdɒŋ◂‖ˈdɪŋdɔːŋ/ *adj, n* **1** [A;U] (like) the noise made by a bell: *the loud dingdong of the church bells* **2** [A;S] *BrE infml* (being) a noisy fight or argument: *They were having a real dingdong|a dingdong argument.*

dinghies





rubber dinghy

see also picture at **yacht**

din·ghy /ˈdɪŋgi, ˈdɪŋi/ *n* **1** a small open sailing boat used esp for racing –compare YACHT **2** a small open boat, used for pleasure or for taking people between a ship and the shore –see also RUBBER DINGHY

din·gle /ˈdɪŋgəl/ *n old-fash* a small wooded valley

din·go /ˈdɪŋgəʊ/ *n* **-goes** an Australian wild dog

din·gy /ˈdɪndʒi/ *adj* (of things and places) dirty and dull or dark in colour; DRAB: *a dingy street | The curtains are getting rather dingy.* –**-gily** *adv* : *She was dingily dressed in an old brown suit.* –**-giness** *n* [U]

dining car /ˈ·· ·/ also **restaurant car** *n* a carriage on a train where meals are served

dining room /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a room where meals are eaten in a house, hotel, etc.

dining ta·ble /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a table esp. for having meals on: *She spread her books on the dining table and settled down to study.* –compare DINNER TABLE

Din·kins /ˈdɪŋkɪnz/, **David** (1927–) an American Democrat politician, the first black MAYOR of New York City (from January 1990)

din·kum /ˈdɪŋkəm/ *adj* see FAIR DINKUM

din·ky[1] /ˈdɪŋki/ *adj* **1** *BrE old-fash* small and charming: *Look at that dinky little spoon!* **2** *AmE derog* small and unimportant: *a dinky little room|hotel* **3** with no children and with both husband and wife working so that there are two incomes; from the first letters of "double income, no kids (yet)": *a dinky couple|household*

dinky[2] *n infml* Double Income No Kids Yet; one of two young married people in professional jobs who do not yet have children and who are both earning quite a lot of money: *highly processed, value-added "recipe" dishes aimed at the "dinky" market*

Dinky , also **Dinky toy** *n* **Dinkys** *tdmk* a small toy vehicle popular since the 1940s and 1950s

din·ner /ˈdɪnəʳ/ *n* **1** [C;U] the main meal of the day, eaten either at midday or in the evening: *What time do you have dinner?* | *I was cooking (the) dinner when the phone rang.* | *It happened at|during dinner.* | *We're having fish for dinner.* | *The children have to pay for their* **school dinners**. (=midday meal provided by the school) | *It's dinner time!* —see also TV DINNER **2** [C] a formal occasion in the evening when this meal is eaten: *The firm are giving|holding a dinner in honour of her retirement.*

▷ USAGE If **dinner** is at midday, the evening meal is called **tea** or **supper.** If **dinner** is in the evening, the midday meal is called **lunch.** In Britain, people use these words differently depending on which part of the country they come from and on their social class. In the US, people also use these words differently depending on which part of the country they come from; **dinner** is usually eaten in the evening except for special occasions: *Christmas dinner*. Some people use either **supper** or **dinner** to mean the evening meal. **Tea** is not used in American English.◁

3 eat one's dinners to complete the process of becoming a BARRISTER. In order to become a barrister in England, a person must study and pass exams, but must also belong to the INNS OF COURT and must eat a certain number of dinners in them: *He read for the Bar, but failed to eat his dinners.* **4 more...than you've had hot dinners** very very many; used particularly when someone is praising a person for their great experience: *She's nursed more babies than you've had hot dinners.*

dinner bell /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a bell rung (e.g. in school) to let people know that dinner is ready

dinner dance /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a social evening which includes a formal dinner and has music for dancing to: *the company's annual dinner dance*

dinner jack·et /ˈ·· ˌ··/ also **tuxedo** *AmE*– (*abbrev.* is **DJ**) *n* **1** a man's black or white JACKET for very formal evening occasions —see picture at EVENING DRESS **2** a complete suit of clothes including a dinner jacket, black trousers, a white shirt, and black BOW TIE —compare TAILS (2)

dinner la·dy /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n BrE* a woman who serves meals to children in a school

dinner par·ty /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a social event in which people are invited to a person's house for an evening meal: *Let's have a dinner party for your birthday.*

dinner ser·vice /ˈ·· ˌ··/ also **dinner set** /ˈ·· ·/– *n* a complete set of plates and dishes for dinner

dinner ta·ble /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [*the*] the occasion when people are having dinner: *I wish you wouldn't talk about these nasty subjects at the dinner table.* —compare DINING TABLE

di·no·saur /ˈdaɪnəsɔːʳ/ *n* **1** any of several types of extremely large REPTILES that lived in very ancient times and disappeared suddenly **2** something very large and old-fashioned that no longer works well or effectively: *one of the dinosaurs of the computer industry*

dint /dɪnt/ *n* **by dint of** by means of: *She reached the top by dint of great effort.*

di·o·cese /ˈdaɪəsˌs/ *n* (in the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches) the area under the control of a BISHOP —**cesan** /daɪˈɒsˌsən‖-ˈɑː-/ *adj* [A]

Di·o·ge·nes /daɪˈɒdʒˌniːz‖-ˈɑː-/ (about 412–323 BC) a Greek thinker who believed that a good life is a simple life and tried to show this by living in a BARREL. He is also famous for walking the streets looking for 'an honest man'.

Di·o·ny·sus /ˌdaɪəˈnaɪsəs/ in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, the god of wine. A **Dionysian** occasion is one where people get drunk.

Di·or /ˈdiːɔːʳ‖diːˈɔːr/, **Christian** **1** (1905–57) a French fashion DESIGNER who made very expensive clothes for rich people. His famous collection of clothes in 1947 was called the New Look. **2** *tdmk* his company's make of expensive clothes and PERFUME

di·ox·ide /daɪˈɒksaɪd‖-ˈɑːk-/ *n* [C;U] a chemical compound containing two atoms of oxygen to every atom of another ELEMENT

di·ox·in /daɪˈɒksˌɪn‖-ˈɑːk-/ *n* [U] a powerful chemical used for killing plants. Adults and unborn babies have been poisoned and killed by dioxin in industrial accidents and through its use as a chemical weapon —see AGENT ORANGE

dip[1] /dɪp/ *v* **-pp-** **1** [T **(in, into)**] to put in a liquid for a moment: *I dipped my pen in the ink.* | *She dipped her hand into the water.* **2** [I;T] to (cause to) drop slightly: *The sun dipped below the western sea.* | *The road dips just around the corner.* | *You should dip your headlights when you meet another car at night.* | *driving through the city on dipped headlights.* **3** [T] to pass (animals) through a bath containing a chemical that kills insects: *to dip sheep*

dip into sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** to read or study for a short time and without much attention: *I haven't read the report properly—I've only dipped into it.* **2** to put one's hand into (a place) and take something out: *She kept dipping into the bag of sweets.* **3** to use (money that has been saved): *The company had to dip into a reserve fund to pay for all the new equipment.*

dip[2] *n* **1** [C] *infml* a quick swim in the sea, a lake, etc.: *I'm just going for a dip|to have a dip.* **2** [C] a slight drop to a lower level: *a sudden dip in the road* | *an unexpected dip in profits* **3** [U] a thick liquid mixture into which food, such as vegetable pieces, can be dipped, esp. at parties: *cheese|avocado dip* **4** [C;U] (a special liquid for) the process of dipping animals **5** [C] *AmE sl* a stupid or silly person —see also LUCKY DIP

Dip. *written abbrev. for:* DIPLOMA

diph·ther·i·a /dɪfˈθɪəriə, dɪp-/ *n* [U] a serious infectious disease of the throat which makes breathing difficult, now rare in developed countries with child health care programmes

diph·thong /ˈdɪfθɒŋ, ˈdɪp-‖-θɔːŋ/ *n tech* **1** a compound vowel sound made by pronouncing two vowels quickly one after the other: *The vowel sound in "my" is a diphthong.* —compare MONOPHTHONG **2** a DIGRAPH

di·plo·ma /dɪˈpləʊmə/ *n* [(**in**)] an official paper showing that a person has successfully finished a course of study or passed an examination: *She has a diploma in education|a high school diploma.*

di·plo·ma·cy /dɪˈpləʊməsi/ *n* [U] **1** the art and practice of establishing and continuing relations between nations **2** skill at dealing with people and getting them to agree; TACT: *He needed all his diplomacy to settle their quarrel.* —see also GUNBOAT DIPLOMACY

dip·lo·mat /ˈdɪpləmæt/ *n* **1** a person who is employed to represent one country in another, such as an AMBASSADOR **2** a person who is skilled in DIPLOMACY (2)

dip·lo·mat·ic /ˌdɪpləˈmætɪk◂/ *adj* **1** [A *no comp.*] concerning diplomacy or diplomats: *the diplomatic service* | *They can't be prosecuted for this offence—they have* **diplomatic immunity**. (=special rights belonging to diplomats) **2** *apprec* skilled in dealing with people; showing TACT: *Try to be diplomatic when you refuse her invitation.* —opposite **undiplomatic** (for **2**) – ~**ally** /kli/ *adv*: *She handled the situation very diplomatically.*

diplomatic corps /··ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n pl.* **-corps** all the diplomats working in a country

diplomatic re·la·tions /ˌ···· ·ˈ··/ *n* [P **(with)**] the arrangement between two countries that each keep representatives at an EMBASSY in the other country: *Following this incident, the United States* **broke off diplomatic relations** *with Iran.*

Diplomatic Ser·vice /··ˈ·· ˌ··/ [*the*] a division of the British Civil Service which employs the people who work in British embassies (EMBASSY) abroad

di·plo·ma·tist /dɪˈpləʊmətˌst/ *n* a diplomat

dip·per /ˈdɪpəʳ/ *n* **1** a big spoon for taking up liquid out of a container **2** a small bird that feeds on the bottom of streams

Dipper also **Big Dipper** *n* [*the*] *esp. AmE* a group of stars, the PLOUGH

dip·py /ˈdɪpi/ *adj esp. AmE infml* crazy or foolish: *She's gone clean dippy.*

dip·so·ma·ni·a /ˌdɪpsəˈmeɪniə/ *n* [U] an uncontrollable desire for alcoholic drinks

dip·so·ma·ni·ac /ˌdɪpsəˈmeɪniæk/ *n* a person suffering from dipsomania

dip·stick /ˈdɪpˌstɪk/ *n* **1** a stick for measuring the depth of liquid in a container, esp. the amount of oil in a car's

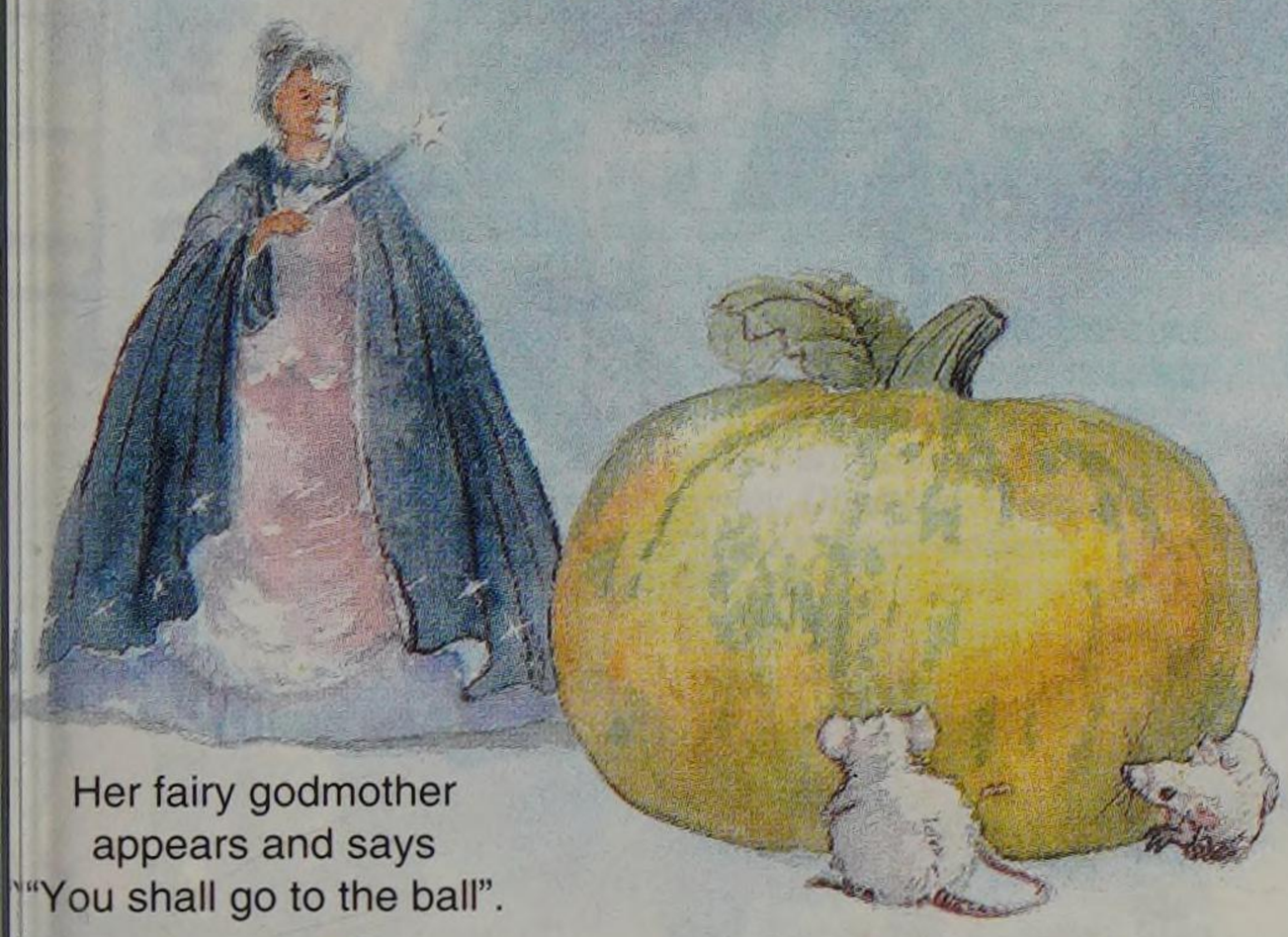
For the full story see Cinderella



Cinderella has to stay at home
and sweep the floor

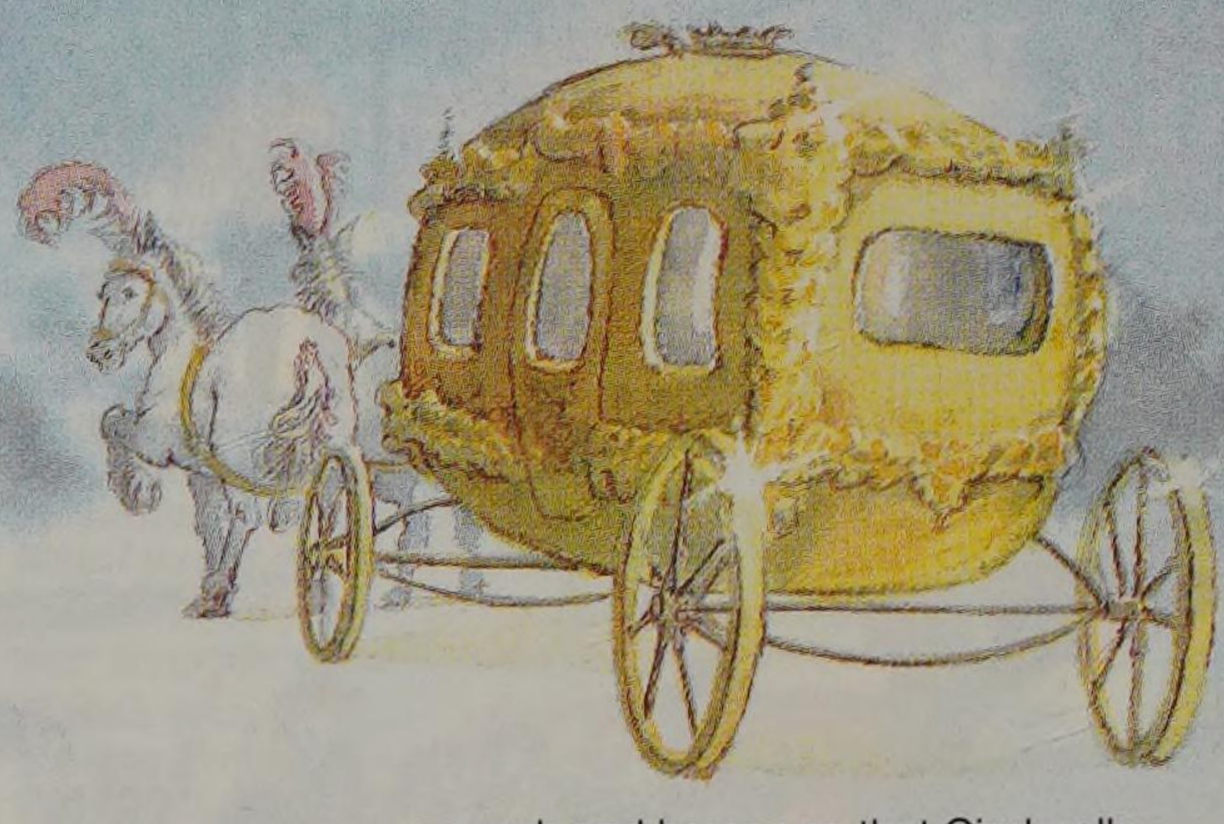


while her ugly sisters put on their best clothes and get ready
to go to the ball (a very special dance).



Her fairy godmother
appears and says
"You shall go to the ball".

She uses magic to change a pumpkin
and mice into…



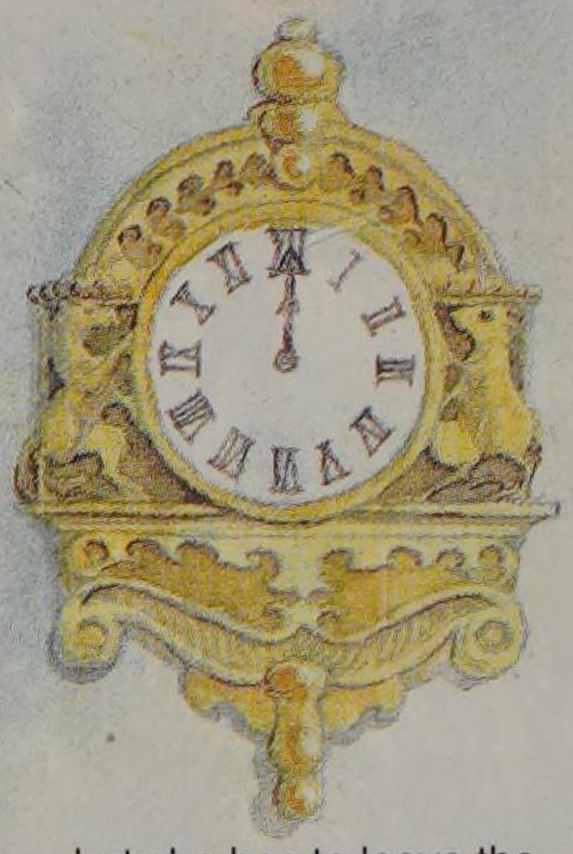
… a coach and horses so that Cinderella
can go to the ball.



Then she gives her a
beautiful dress to wear.



Prince Charming falls
in love with Cinderella



but she has to leave the
ball by midnight.



She leaves her glass slipper behind.

There was much fighting and a lot of crime in the Wild West because there was no government. Cowboys often fought each other in gunfights in the street, outlaws committed crimes such as robbing trains, and cowboys also fought against Indians (Native Americans). When the cowboys made peace with the Indians, the Indians, sometimes with the cowboys, sat and smoked a peace pipe.

gunfighter

covered wagon

outlaws

tepee

Indian
(Native American)

engine —see picture at ENGINE **2** *BrE sl* a fool, stupid person

dip·switch /ˈdɪpˌswɪtʃ/ *n BrE* an instrument in a car for lowering the beam of the HEADLIGHTS

dip·tych /ˈdɪptɪk/ *n tech* a picture made in two parts which can close like the covers of a book —compare TRIPTYCH

dire /daɪəʳ/ *adj* **1** (of needs and dangers) very great; extreme; terrible: *in dire need of food* | *The company is* **in dire straits**. (=in a seriously difficult position) **2** [A] causing great fear for the future: *dire warnings|predictions*

di·rect[1] /dəˈrekt, ˌdaɪˈrekt◂/ *v* [T] **1** [+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] to turn or aim (attention, remarks, movement, activity, etc.) in the stated direction: *This warning is directed at you.* | *Please direct your complaints to the manager.* | *We directed our steps homewards.* | *civil unrest directed against the white community* | *Most of the money will be directed towards medical research.* **2** to control and be in charge of (an activity or situation); manage: *He directed the building of the new bridge.* | *A policewoman stood in the middle of the road, directing the traffic.* **3** *fml* to order, esp. officially; command: [+*obj*+*to-v*] *The judge directed the jury to find the prisoner guilty.* [+*that*] *The general directed that his men should retreat.* —see ORDER (USAGE) **4** to be the person who instructs the actors in (a film or play); be the DIRECTOR (2) of: *Who directed that new Italian film?* **5** [(**to**)] to tell (someone) the way to a place: *I'm lost. Can you direct me to Times Square?* —see LEAD (USAGE)

direct[2] *adj* **1** straight; going from one point to another without turning aside: *Which is the most direct route to London?* | *a direct flight from London to Los Angeles* (=without stopping) **2** [*no comp.*] without any other person, reason, etc. coming between: *Unemployment has increased* **as a direct result of** *government policies.* (=and for no other reason) | *The organization was investigated at the direct request of the President.* **3** (of people and their manner) honest, easily understood and not attempting to deceive: *He refused to give a direct answer to my question.* | *She's always very direct, so you know exactly what she's thinking* **4** [A] exact: *He's the direct opposite of his brother.* **5** [A *no comp.*] (of family relationships) passing in a straight line from parent to child: *She's a direct descendant of the poet Wordsworth.* —see also DIRECTLY — **~ness** *n* [U]

direct[3] *adv* in a straight line; without stopping or turning aside: *The next flight doesn't go direct to Rome. It goes by way of Paris.*

direct cur·rent /ˌ·ˈ··/ *n* [U] a flow of electricity that moves in one direction only —compare ALTERNATING CURRENT

direct deb·it /ˌ·ˈ··/ *esp. BrE*‖**automatic payment** *AmE*— *n* [C;U] an order to a bank to pay money from one's account to another named account at regular times: *Please cancel all my direct debits.* | *If you wish to pay by direct debit, please complete the mandate below.* —compare STANDING ORDER

direct de·pos·it /ˌ·ˈ··/ *n* [U] *AmE* a common method of paying a person's wages directly into their bank account, so that neither a cheque nor money in the form of coins and notes is used. The employee receives instead a piece of paper with information about how much has been paid into the account.

direct dial /ˌ·ˈ·/ *n* [U] a system by which telephone users in a large building can get the telephone line they want themselves, and do not have to ask a special worker (=SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR) to get it for them: *All bedrooms feature private bathrooms, satellite TV, in-house movie channel, direct dial telephone, etc.*

direct dis·course /ˌ·ˈ··/ *n* [U] *AmE for* DIRECT SPEECH

direct free kick /ˌ·ˈ·/ *n* (in football) a FREE KICK given to one team, from which a direct shot at GOAL can be made —compare INDIRECT FREE KICK, PENALTY KICK

direct grant school /ˌ·ˈ·ˌ·/ *n* a British GRAMMAR SCHOOL which receives money directly from the central government and not from local government like most other SECONDARY SCHOOLS

di·rec·tion /dəˈrekʃən, daɪ-/ *n* **1** [C;U] the point or position towards which a person or thing moves, faces, or is aimed: *She drove off* **in the direction of** *London.* (=towards London) | *Stones were flying about in every direction.* | *Which direction does the house face?* | *She has a good* **sense of direction** *and never gets lost.* | (fig.) *Their economic policy is moving in the direction of* (=tending towards) *retrenchment.* | (fig.) *His greatest problem is that he lacks direction|has no* **sense of direction.** (=he does not know what he wants to do with his life, job, etc.) | (fig.) *The law on women's rights is still unsatisfactory, but this new change is* **a step in the right direction.** **2** [U] control or management: *The investigation was carried out* **under the direction of** *a senior police officer.* —see also DIRECTIONS

di·rec·tion·al /dəˈrekʃənəl, daɪ-/ *adj* connected with direction in space; suitable for finding out where radio signals come from (esp. in the phrase **directional aerial**)

direction find·er /·ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a piece of equipment for finding out where radio signals are coming from

di·rec·tions /dəˈrekʃənz, daɪ-/ *n* [P] instructions on what to do, how to do something, or how to get from one place to another: *Follow the directions on the packet.* | *We asked a policeman and he gave us directions to Buckingham Palace.*

di·rec·tive /dəˈrektɪv, daɪ-/ *n* an official order or instruction: *The management has issued a new directive about the use of company cars.*

di·rect·ly[1] /dəˈrektli, daɪ-/ *adv* **1** in a direct manner: *She answered me very directly and openly.* [+*adv*/*prep*] *We live directly opposite the church.* | *to buy goods directly from the manufacturers* **2** *BrE* **a** at once: *Answer me directly!* **b** *infml* very soon: *He should be here directly if you don't mind waiting.*

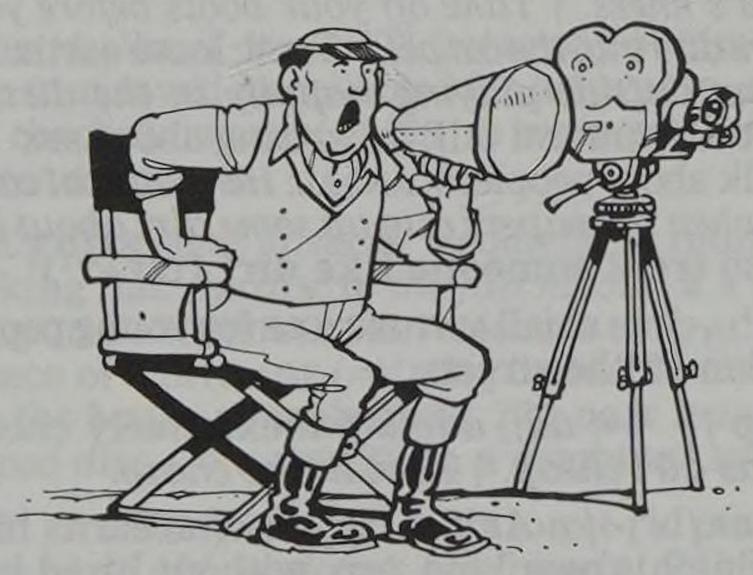
directly[2] *conj BrE infml* as soon as: *I came directly I got your message.*

direct mail /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* [U] advertisements which are sent through the post to many people: *a public relations company offering everything from lobbying and management consulting to research, direct-mail campaigns, and traditional public relations*

direct meth·od /ˌ· ˈ··, ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* a method of teaching a foreign language without using the student's own language

direct ob·ject /ˌ· ˈ··, ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n tech* the noun, noun phrase, or PRONOUN that is needed to complete the meaning of a statement using a TRANSITIVE verb: *In "I saw Mary", "Mary" is the direct object. In "I gave Mary the money", "the money" is the direct object.* —compare INDIRECT OBJECT

film director



di·rec·tor /dəˈrektəʳ, daɪ-/ *n* **1** a member of the group of top managers who run a company: *She's on the board of directors.* **2** a person who directs a play or film, instructing the actors, cameramen, etc. —compare PRODUCER (2) **3** anyone who directs an organization or activity: *the President's budget director*

di·rec·tor·ate /dəˈrektərɪt, daɪ-/ *n* **1** [+*sing.*/*pl. v*] a board of directors of a company **2** a directorship

Director-Gen·e·ral /ˌ·ˌ·· ˈ···/ (*abbrev.* **DG**) [*the*] the head of the BBC: *Lord Chancellor Kilmuir was asked by the Director-General of the BBC whether serving judges would be willing to speak on the radio about great judges of the past.*

Director of Pub·lic Pros·e·cu·tions /ˌ·ˌ·· · ˌ·· ··ˈ··/ (*abbrev.* **DPP**) [*the*] the British government lawyer who decides in certain doubtful cases whether a person should be tried by a court of law

Director of Stud·ies /ˌ·ˌ·· · ˈ··/ *n* a teacher in a British university or language school who is in charge of the

organization of the students' study programmes

di·rec·tor·ship /dɪ'rektəʃɪp, daɪ-‖-ər-/ *n* (the period of holding) the position of a company director: *As well as being a politician, he holds several directorships.*

di·rec·to·ry /daɪ'rektəri, dɪ-/ *n* a book or list of names, facts, etc., usu. arranged in alphabetical order: *The telephone directory gives people's names, addresses, and telephone numbers.* —see TELEPHONE (USAGE)

directory en·qui·ries /·ˌ··· ·'··/ *n* [+ *sing./pl v*] the service on the main British telephone network which one rings to ask for a number one does not know, giving the name and address of the person or company concerned —compare INFORMATION (2)

direct pri·ma·ry /·ˌ· '···/ *n AmE* an election in which people choose from several CANDIDATES of one political party who they want to run against the candidate from the other political party

direct rule /·ˌ· '·/ *n* [U] direct government of Northern Ireland by the UK parliament which in 1972, after violence in Northern Ireland, replaced rule by the Northern Ireland government

direct speech /·ˌ· '·, ˌ·· '·/ *BrE* ‖ **direct discourse** *AmE*— *n* [U] *tech* the style used to report someone's actual words. This is done by repeating the words without any changes in grammar, e.g. *"I don't want to go," said Julia.* —compare INDIRECT SPEECH

direct tax /·ˌ· '·/ *n* [C;U] (a) tax, such as income tax, which is actually collected from the person who pays it, rather than on the sale of goods or services —opposite **indirect tax** — ~**ation** /·ˌ· ·'··/ *n* [U]

dire·ful /'daɪəfəl‖'daɪər-/ *adj lit* threatening or producing terrible effects — ~**ly** *adv*

Dire Straits /ˌ· '·/ a British popular music group successful since the 1980s

dirge /dɜːdʒ‖dɜːrdʒ/ *n* **1** a slow sad song sung over a dead person **2** *derog* any slow sad song or piece of music

dir·i·gi·ble /'dɪrɨdʒɨbəl, dɨ'rɪ-/ *n* a large aircraft filled with gas which can be guided; AIRSHIP

dirk /dɜːk‖dɜːrk/ *n* a short sword used in Scotland in former times; a kind of DAGGER

dirn·dl /'dɜːndl‖'dɜːr-/ *n* **1** a wide skirt that is gathered at the waist **2** a dress with wide skirt that has a tight waist and with a close-fitting upper part, as originally worn in Austria. Such dresses were fashionable in the 1950s.

dirt /dɜːt‖dɜːrt/ *n* [U] **1** any unclean substance, such as mud or dust: *She washed the dirt off the kitchen floor|off the child's knees.* | *Take off your boots before you tread any more dirt into the carpet.* **2** soil; loose earth: *The children were outside playing happily in the dirt.* **3** unpleasant or immoral talk or writing about sex **4** *infml* nasty talk about people; SCANDAL: *Her political career was ruined when the papers dug up some dirt about her past.* —see also **treat someone like dirt** (TREAT[1])

dirt bike /'· ˌ·/ *n* a small MOTORCYCLE for young people, usu. not ridden on the streets

dirt cheap /ˌ· '·◂/ *adj, adv infml* extremely cheap: *This dress was dirt cheap.* | *I got it dirt cheap.*

dirt farm·er /'· ˌ··/ *n AmE* a farmer who earns his living by farming his own land, esp. without hired help

dirt poor /ˌ· '·/ *adj AmE infml* very poor; having very little money

dirt road /'· ·/ *n* a road of hard earth

dirt track /'· ·/ *n* a track used for some types of motorcycle races

dirt·y[1] /'dɜːti‖'dɜːr-/ *adj* **1** not clean; covered or marked with dirt, or likely to make dirt: *dirty hands|clothes* | *Put the dirty dishes* (=plates, cups, etc.) *in the sink.* | *Repairing cars is a dirty job.* **2** (of thoughts or words) concerned with sex in an unpleasant way: *They sat drinking and telling dirty jokes.* | *He took his secretary away for a dirty weekend.* **3** *infml* unpleasant: *The fishermen won't go out on such a dirty night.* | *She gave me a* **dirty look**. (=looked at me with disapproval) | *"Empire" is a* **dirty word** *these days.* (=people disapprove of the idea) **4** not fair: *a dirty fighter* **5 do the dirty on** *BrE infml* to treat in an unfair or dishonest way **6 dirty pool** unfair acts: *He plays dirty pool – don't trust him.* —see also **wash one's dirty linen (in public)** (WASH[1] (7)) —**-ily** *adv*

dirty[2] *v* [I;T] to make or become dirty: *You'll dirty your hands if you touch that machine.*

Dirty Den /ˌ·· '·/ a character, Dennis Watts, from the British television programme *Eastenders*, whose activities were not always honest

dirty great /'·· ·/ *adj BrE sl* extremely big: *We suddenly saw this dirty great truck coming towards us.*

dirty mac bri·gade /ˌ·· '· ·ˌ·/ [*the*] *BrE infml derog* a collective word for men with an unhealthy interest in sex. A typical image is of a man in a long, dirty coat who either reads PORNOGRAPHIC magazines or makes improper advances towards women, including flashing (FLASH): *It's a widely held opinion that it's the dirty mac brigade who are chiefly responsible for obscene telephone calls.*

dirty old man /ˌ·· · '·/ *n* a usu. middle-aged man who has an unhealthy interest in sex, esp. one who continually tries to establish sexual relationships with much younger women or children

dirty trick /ˌ·· '·/ *n* an unkind dishonest way of treating someone: *He ordered the drinks and then left me to pay. That was a dirty trick, wasn't it?*

dirty tricks /ˌ·· '·/ *n* [P] secret dishonest or illegal activity, including crimes such as murder, performed for a government or other political group. The group of people who do it are sometimes called informally the **dirty tricks brigade**.

dirty week·end /ˌ·· ·'·‖ˌ·· '··/ *n* a weekend when a man and a woman who are not married to each other go away together to have sex: *He's gone off with the boss's wife for a dirty weekend in Brighton.*

dirty work /'·· ·/ *n* [U] **1** unpleasant work that no one wants to do: *She left it to me to tell them they were sacked— she always gets me to do her dirty work for her.* **2** *infml* dishonest behaviour: *There's been some dirty work with the club accounts, and some money is missing.*

dis- see WORD FORMATION

dis·a·bil·i·ty /ˌdɪsə'bɪlɨti/ *n* **1** [U] the state of being disabled: *She gets a* **disability pension** *from the government.* **2** [C] something that disables; a HANDICAP: *Blindness is a very serious disability.*

dis·a·ble /dɪs'eɪbəl/ *v* [T] **1** [*often pass.*] to make (a person) unable to use his/her body properly: *a disabled soldier* | *He was disabled in the war. He lost his left arm.* | *a disabling disease* **2** to cause (e.g. a machine) to be no longer able to operate **3** [(**from**)] *fml* to take away (from a person) a power or right; DISQUALIFY: *He is disabled from voting.* — ~**ment** *n* [C;U]

dis·a·bled /dɪs'eɪbəld/ *n* [*the*+P] people who are physically disabled: *The theatre has very good access for the disabled.*

dis·a·buse /ˌdɪsə'bjuːz/ *v* [T (**of**)] *fml* to free (a person) from a wrong belief: *I must disabuse you of that idea.*

dis·ad·van·tage /ˌdɪsəd'vɑːntɪdʒ‖-'væn-/ *n* [C;U] an unfavourable condition or quality that makes a person or thing less successful or effective than others: *One of the main disadvantages of the system is that it uses very large amounts of fuel.* | *If you don't speak good English, you'll be* **at a big disadvantage** *when you try to get a job.* | *Her height will be very much* **to her disadvantage** *if she wants to be a dancer.*

dis·ad·van·taged /ˌdɪsəd'vɑːntɪdʒd‖-'væn-/ *adj* (of a person) suffering from a disadvantage, esp. with regard to one's social position, family background, etc.: *disadvantaged students from the poorest homes*

dis·ad·van·ta·geous /ˌdɪsædvən'teɪdʒəs, -væn-/ *adj* [(**to**)] causing or being a disadvantage — ~**ly** *adv*

dis·af·fect·ed /ˌdɪsə'fektɨd◂/ *adj* [(**towards**)] dissatisfied and lacking loyalty, esp. political loyalty: *Some of the government's most loyal supporters are now becoming disaffected.* —**-fection** /'fekʃən/ *n* [U] : *There's growing disaffection among the more moderate members of the party.*

dis·af·fil·i·ate /ˌdɪsə'fɪlieɪt/ *v* [I;T (**from**)] (of a person or organization) to break one's connection with an organization —compare AFFILIATE

dis·af·for·est /ˌdɪsə'fɒrɨst‖-'fɔː-, -'fɑː-/ also **disforest** *BrE* *v* [T] DEFOREST — ~**ation** /ˌdɪsəfɒrɨ'steɪʃən‖-fɔː-, -fɑː-/ *n* [U]

dis·a·gree /ˌdɪsə'griː/ *v* [I (**with**)] **1** (of people) to have different opinions; quarrel slightly: *Bill and I often*

disagree but we're good friends. | *I strongly disagree with the last speaker.* | *We disagreed over what should be done.* **2** (of statements, reports, etc.) to be different (from each other); fail to CORRESPOND: *These two reports of the accident disagree on a number of points.*

disagree with sbdy. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] (of food or weather) to have a bad effect on; make ill: *Chocolate always disagrees with me.*

dis·a·gree·a·ble /ˌdɪsəˈgriːəbəl/ *adj* **1** unpleasant; not what one likes or enjoys: *a disagreeable job* **2** (of people) bad-tempered and unfriendly: *Stop being so disagreeable!* —**-bly** *adv* — ~**ness** *n* [U]

dis·a·gree·ment /ˌdɪsəˈgriːmənt/ *n* **1** [C;U] the fact or a case of disagreeing: *Bill and I have been having a few disagreements lately.* | *I am in total disagreement with you over this.* **2** [U (**between**)] lack of similarity (between statements, reports, etc.): *There is considerable disagreement between these two estimates of the cost.*

dis·al·low /ˌdɪsəˈlaʊ/ *v* [T] *fml* to refuse officially to recognize or allow: *to disallow a goal|a claim*

dis·ap·pear /ˌdɪsəˈpɪəʳ/ *v* [I] **1** to go out of sight: *The sun disappeared behind a cloud.* **2** to stop existing; come to an end: *These beautiful birds are fast disappearing.* **3** to leave or become lost, esp. suddenly or without explanation: *By the time the police arrived the gang had disappeared.* | *My keys have disappeared off the table.* | *Several top-secret files have mysteriously disappeared.* —~**ance** *n* [C;U] : *Her disappearance was very worrying.*

dis·ap·point /ˌdɪsəˈpɔɪnt/ *v* [T] **1** to fail to fulfil the hopes of (a person): *I'm sorry to disappoint you, but I can't come after all.* **2** to prevent the fulfilment of (a plan or hope); FRUSTRATE: *to disappoint someone's hopes*

dis·ap·point·ed /ˌdɪsəˈpɔɪntɨd◂/ *adj* **1** [(**about, at, in, with**)] (of a person) unhappy at not seeing hopes come true: *Since he lost the election he's a disappointed man.* | *She was very|deeply disappointed about|at losing the race.* | *My parents will be disappointed in|with me if I fail the exam.* [F+*to-v*] *I was disappointed to hear that they weren't coming.* [F+(*that*)] *I'm disappointed (that) you're not coming.* **2** (of a plan or hope) defeated; not fulfilled: *disappointed hopes* —~**ly** *adv*

dis·ap·point·ing /ˌdɪsəˈpɔɪntɪŋ◂/ *adj* making one unhappy at not seeing hopes come true: *What disappointing news!* | *Your exam marks are rather disappointing. I expected you to do better.* | *disappointing profit figures* —~**ly** *adv*

dis·ap·point·ment /ˌdɪsəˈpɔɪntmənt/ *n* **1** [U] the state of being disappointed: **To my great disappointment,** *she wasn't on the train.* (=this made me disappointed) **2** [C] someone or something disappointing: *Our son has been a disappointment to us.* | *The film was a bit of a disappointment. We expected it to be much better.*

dis·ap·pro·ba·tion /ˌdɪsæprəˈbeɪʃən/ *n* [U] *fml* disapproval, esp. of something immoral

dis·ap·prov·al /ˌdɪsəˈpruːvəl/ *n* [U] the state of disapproving: *He spoke with disapproval of your behaviour.* | *She shook her head in disapproval.* (=as a sign of disapproval) | *She gave up her job, greatly* **to my disapproval.** (=making me disapprove)

dis·ap·prove /ˌdɪsəˈpruːv/ *v* **1** [I (**of**)] to have an unfavourable opinion of someone or something, esp. for moral reasons: *He disapproves of mothers going out to work. In fact, he disapproves very strongly.* **2** [T] to refuse to agree officially to: *Congress disapproved the legislation.* —**-provingly** *adv*

dis·arm /dɪsˈɑːm‖-ˈɑːrm/ *v* **1** [T] to take the weapons away from: *The police disarmed the criminal.* **2** [I] (esp. of a country) to reduce the size and strength of its armed forces —compare REARM **3** [T] *apprec* to gain the trust or favour of, esp. through friendliness: *We didn't trust him at first, but his charming manner completely disarmed us.* | *a disarming smile*

dis·ar·ma·ment /dɪsˈɑːməmənt‖-ˈɑːr-/ *n* [U] the act or principle of reducing or giving up weapons by a government. In Britain, many supporters of NUCLEAR disarmament are members of CND: *a lifelong supporter of* **nuclear disarmament** —compare ARMAMENT (3), REARMAMENT

dis·ar·range /ˌdɪsəˈreɪndʒ/ *v* [T] *fml* to upset the arrangement of; make untidy —~**ment** *n* [U]

dis·ar·ray /ˌdɪsəˈreɪ/ *n* [U] *fml* the state of disorder: *She rushed out of the burning house with her clothes in disarray.* | (fig.) *This latest internal row has thrown the government into complete disarray.*

dis·as·so·ci·ate /ˌdɪsəˈsəʊʃieɪt, -sieɪt/ *v* [T (**from**)] to DISSOCIATE

di·sas·ter /dɪˈzɑːstəʳ‖dɪˈzæ-/ *n* [C;U] **1** (a) sudden serious misfortune causing great suffering and damage: *The flood was a terrible disaster. Hundreds of people died.* | *The crash was the worst air disaster* (=crash of a plane) *this year.* | *Everything was going well, and then suddenly* **disaster struck.** (=something terrible happened) **2** *infml* (a) complete failure: *The party was an absolute disaster—the guests all got drunk and started fighting with each other.*

disaster ar·e·a /·ˈ·· ˌ···/ ‖ also **distressed area** *AmE*— *n* a place which has suffered a lot of damage because of a disaster such as a flood. In the US, if the governor or the president says that a place is a disaster area, it is then allowed to receive money from the state or FEDERAL government to build again: *The area has been declared a disaster area.*

di·sas·trous /dɪˈzɑːstrəs‖dɪˈzæ-/ *adj* very bad; being or causing a disaster: *a disastrous mistake|marriage|failure* | *The new system has had a disastrous effect on productivity.* —~**ly** *adv*

dis·a·vow /ˌdɪsəˈvaʊ/ *v* [T] *fml* to refuse to admit that one has (knowledge, a connection, etc.): *She disavowed all responsibility for their actions.* | *He disavowed any intention to deceive the public.* —~**al** *n* [C;U]

dis·band /dɪsˈbænd/ *v* [I;T] to break up and separate: *The club has disbanded.* | *The officers disbanded the club.* —~**ment** *n* [U]

dis·bar /dɪsˈbɑːʳ/ *v* **-rr-** [T *often pass.*] to make (a lawyer) leave the BAR or the legal profession —compare DEBAR —~**ment** *n* [U]

dis·be·lief /ˌdɪsbɨˈliːf/ *n* [U] lack of belief that something is true or that something really exists: *He shook his head in disbelief.* —compare UNBELIEF, BELIEF

dis·be·lieve /ˌdɪsbɨˈliːv/ *v* [I (**in**);T] to refuse to believe (a statement or person): *I see no reason to disbelieve what he says.* —**-liever** *n* — compare UNBELIEVER

▷ USAGE **Disbelieve** is a strong and rather formal word which suggests that there are good reasons for not accepting something (especially a story or statement) as true. It is not the usual opposite of **believe.** People say: *I don't* **believe** *you.* | *I don't* **believe** *in letting children do whatever they like.*◁

dis·burse /dɪsˈbɜːs‖-ɜːrs/ *v* [T] *fml* to pay out (money) esp. from a sum saved or collected for a purpose —~**ment** *n* [C;U] : *the disbursement of £20* | *to make several small disbursements*

disc *BrE* ‖ **disk** *AmE* /dɪsk/ *n* **1** something round and flat, or looking flat: *the disc of the full moon* **2** a record for playing on a RECORD PLAYER —see also COMPACT DISC **3** a flat piece of CARTILAGE (=strong bendable material) between the bones of one's back: *The pain was caused by a slipped disc.* **4** a DISK (2) in a computer system

dis·card[1] /dɪsˈkɑːd‖-ɑːrd/ *v* **1** [T] to get rid of as useless: *to discard an old coat|one's old friends* **2** [I;T] (in card games) to give up (unwanted cards): *to discard the Queen of Hearts* | *You've got to discard before you can pick up another card.*

dis·card[2] /ˈdɪskɑːd‖-ɑːrd/ *n* a card discarded in a card game

disc brakes /ˈ· ·/ *n* [P] BRAKES (=apparatus for stopping the wheels of a vehicle) which work by the pressure of a pair of discs against another one in the centre of a car wheel

di·scern /dɪˈsɜːn‖-ɜːrn/ *v* [T *not in progressive forms*] to see, notice, or understand, esp. with difficulty; PERCEIVE: *I could just discern the shape of a horse in the mist.* [+*that*] *I soon discerned that the man was lying.* [+*wh-*] *It was difficult to discern which of them was telling the truth.* —~**ible** *adj* : *There is still no discernible improvement in the economic situation.* —~**ibly** *adv*

di·scern·ing /dɪˈsɜːnɪŋ‖-ɜːr-/ *adj apprec* showing an ability to make good judgments, esp. in matters of style, fashion, beauty, etc.: *The paper has a discerning readership.* | *a fashionable clothes shop for the discerning young man*

di·scern·ment /dɪˈsɜːnmənt‖-ɜːr-/ *n* [U] *apprec* the quality of being discerning: *He showed great discernment in his choice of wine.*

dis·charge[1] /dɪsˈtʃɑːdʒ‖-ɑːr-/ *v usu. fml* **1** [T (**from**)] to allow or tell (a person) to go: *The judge discharged the prisoner.* | *Although she was still ill, she discharged herself from hospital.* | *He was discharged from the army.* **2** [I+*adv/prep*;T] to send, pour, or let out (gas, liquid, etc.): *The chimney discharges smoke.* | *The River Rhine discharges (itself) into the North Sea.* **3** [T] to perform (a duty or promise) properly **4** [T] to pay (a debt) completely **5** [T] to unload: *to discharge the ship/the cargo* | *The aircraft discharged its passengers.* **6** [T (**at, into**)] to fire or shoot (a gun, ARROW, etc.) **7** [I] (of a wound) to send out PUS (=infected liquid matter) **8** [I;T] **a** (of a piece of electrical equipment) to send out electricity or lose stored electrical power **b** to cause the removal of electricity or of stored electrical power from

dis·charge[2] /dɪsˈtʃɑːdʒ, ˈdɪstʃɑːdʒ‖-ɑːr-/ *n usu. fml* **1** [U] the action of discharging: *the discharge of one's debts/of one's duty/of smoke from a chimney* | *After my discharge from the army I went into business.* **2** [C;U] something that is discharged: *a discharge of electricity* | *The fish in the river were poisoned by discharge from the chemical factory.*

discharged bank·rupt /ˌ·ˈ··/ *n* a BANKRUPT (=someone who is unable to pay their debts) who has obeyed the orders of the court and is now free to do business again

disc har·row /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a machine with a set of DISCS on a frame, which is rolled over the ground to break it up so that crops can be planted

di·sci·ple /dɪˈsaɪpəl/ *n* **1** a follower of any great teacher (esp. of a religious teacher): *Martin Luther King considered himself a disciple of Gandhi.* **2** (*often cap.*) in the Christian religion, one of the first followers of Christ, esp. an APOSTLE: *the 12 disciples*

di·sci·ple·ship /dɪˈsaɪpəlʃɪp/ *n* [U] the state or time of being a disciple

dis·ci·pli·nar·i·an /ˌdɪsəplɪˈneəriən/ *n* a person who can make people obey orders or who believes in firm discipline: *a strict disciplinarian*

dis·ci·pli·na·ry /ˈdɪsəplɪnəri, ˌdɪsəˈplɪ-‖ˈdɪsəpləneri/ *adj* connected with punishment or the encouragement of obedience: *The college authorities* **took disciplinary action** *against the protesting students.* | *She was dismissed in accordance with the company's usual disciplinary procedures.*

dis·ci·pline[1] /ˈdɪsəplən/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a method of) training to produce obedience and self-control: *school/military discipline* | *Learning poetry is a good discipline for the memory.* —see also SELF-DISCIPLINE **2** [U] a state of order and control gained as a result of this training: *The teacher can't keep discipline in her classroom.* **3** [U] punishment that is intended to produce obedience: *That child needs discipline!* **4** [C] a branch of learning studied at a university: *an academic discipline*

discipline[2] *v* [T] **1** to train or develop, esp. in obedience and self-control: *They never make any attempt to discipline their children.* | *a disciplined army* | *I've disciplined myself to do two hours of exercises every day.* **2** to punish for the purpose of keeping order and control: *The offenders will be severely disciplined.*

disc jock·ey /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* **1** a broadcaster who introduces records of popular music on a radio or television show, and talks in an entertaining way between records **2** someone hired to introduce and play records at a party

dis·claim /dɪsˈkleɪm/ *v* [T] to state that one does not have or accept; DENY: *He disclaimed all responsibility for the accident.* [+*v-ing*] *She disclaims being involved in the affair.*

dis·claim·er /dɪsˈkleɪməʳ/ *n* a statement which disclaims: *to issue/publish a disclaimer*

dis·close /dɪsˈkləʊz/ *v* [T] **1** to make known (esp. something that has been kept secret) publicly: *The judge asked the reporters not to disclose the name of the murder victim.* [+*that*] *She disclosed that she had been in prison.* **2** to show by uncovering: *The curtain opened, disclosing an empty stage.*

dis·clo·sure /dɪsˈkləʊʒəʳ/ *n* **1** [U] the act of disclosing: *the unauthorized disclosure of state secrets* **2** [C] a fact, esp. a secret fact, which is disclosed: *In the course of the trial a number of sensational disclosures were made.*

dis·co /ˈdɪskəʊ/ also **discotheque** *fml*– *n* **-cos** **1** a club where people dance to recorded popular music **2** a social occasion at which people dance to recorded popular music: *the Friday night disco in the church hall* —see DANCE[1] (1) (CULTURAL NOTE)

disco danc·ing /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [U] dancing to modern recorded popular music

dis·col·o·ra·tion /dɪsˌkʌləˈreɪʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the act of discolouring or the process of being discoloured **2** [C] a discoloured place; a mark or STAIN

dis·col·our *BrE* ‖ **discolor** *AmE* /dɪsˈkʌləʳ/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) change colour and look worse: *teeth discoloured by years of smoking*

dis·com·bob·u·late /ˌdɪskəmˈbɒbjʊleɪt‖-ˈbɑː-/ *v* [T] *AmE infml* to confuse or upset: *The stress of moving house is discombobulating her.*

dis·com·fit /dɪsˈkʌmfɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to make (someone) feel rather annoyed and uncomfortable; EMBARRASS slightly: *She hadn't done anything, so she was rather discomfited when he thanked her for her valuable help.*

dis·com·fi·ture /dɪsˈkʌmfɪtʃəʳ/ *n* [U] the act of discomfiting or state of being discomfited

dis·com·fort /dɪsˈkʌmfət‖-ərt/ *n* **1** [U] lack of comfort; the state of being uncomfortable: *The wound isn't serious, but may cause some discomfort.* **2** [C] something that makes one uncomfortable: *the discomforts of travel* **3** [U] slight anxiety or shame: *She turned red with discomfort when the teacher called out her name.*

dis·com·mode /ˌdɪskəˈməʊd/ *v* [T] *fml* to cause difficulty for; INCOMMODE

dis·com·pose /ˌdɪskəmˈpəʊz/ *v* [T] *fml* to make (someone) lose control and become worried —**posure** /ˈpəʊʒəʳ/ *n* [U]

dis·con·cert /ˌdɪskənˈsɜːt‖-ɜːrt/ *v* [T *often pass.*] to make (someone) feel doubt and anxiety; PERTURB: *Their parents were disconcerted by their silence.* | *It was rather disconcerting to find that someone had been opening my letters.* —~**ingly** *adv*: *The baby is disconcertingly like Mr Jones.*

dis·con·nect /ˌdɪskəˈnekt/ *v* [T] **1** [(**from**)] to undo the connection of (esp. a public supply, e.g. electricity, telephone wires, etc.): *They've disconnected our phone because we didn't pay the bill.* | *to disconnect a waterpipe from the mains supply* **2** to break the telephone connection between (two people): *I think we've been disconnected, operator – will you try the number again, please?* —~**ion** /ˈnekʃən/ *n* [C;U]

dis·con·nect·ed /ˌdɪskəˈnektɪd◂/ *adj* (esp. of thoughts and ideas) having no connection: *a few disconnected remarks* —~**ly** *adv*

dis·con·so·late /dɪsˈkɒnsələt‖-ˈkɑːn-/ *adj* hopelessly sad, esp. at the loss of something: *She is disconsolate about/at/over the death of her cat.* —~**ly** *adv*

dis·con·tent[1] /ˌdɪskənˈtent/ also **dis·con·tent·ment** /-mənt/– *n* [U (**with**)] lack of satisfaction; restless unhappiness: *growing discontent among the young unemployed* —opposite **content(ment)**

discontent[2] *v* [T] to make (someone) discontented

dis·con·tent·ed /ˌdɪskənˈtentɪd◂/ *adj* [(**with**)] dissatisfied and restlessly unhappy: *She has a discontented look, as if she never enjoys life.* | *He's discontented with his job.* | *discontented customers* —~**ly** *adv*

dis·con·tin·ue /ˌdɪskənˈtɪnjuː/ *v* [T] *rather fml* to stop or end; no longer continue (esp. something that has existed or happened regularly or for a long time): *The bus service has been discontinued.* | *discontinued software* | *The shop is having a sale of* **discontinued lines**. (=products that are no longer being produced) —**-uance** *n* [U]

dis·con·ti·nu·i·ty /ˌdɪskɒntɪˈnjuːɪti‖-kɑːntɪˈnuː-/ *n* **1** [U] the quality of not being continuous **2** [C (**between**)] *fml* a breaking or space; GAP

dis·con·tin·u·ous /ˌdɪskənˈtɪnjuəs/ *adj* not continuous in space or time: *This is a discontinuous line* – – – – . —~**ly** *adv*

dis·cord /ˈdɪskɔːd‖-ɔːrd/ *n* **1** [U] *fml* disagreement between people: *marital discord* **2** [C;U] (a) lack of agreement heard when musical notes are played which do not sound pleasant together —compare CONCORD, HARMONY

dis·cord·ant /dɪs'kɔːdənt‖-ɔːr-/ *adj* in a state of discord: *discordant opinions/sounds* — **~ly** *adv*

dis·co·theque /'dɪskətek, ˌdɪskə'tek/ *n fml for* DISCO

dis·count[1] /'dɪskaʊnt/ *n* **1** a reduction made in the cost of buying goods: *The staff at the shop get a discount of ten per cent.* | *We can give you a small discount.* | *a discount retailer/rate* —compare REBATE **2 at a discount: a** below the usual price **b** *fml* not valuable or wanted: *Honesty seems to be rather at a discount today.*

dis·count[2] /dɪs'kaʊnt‖'dɪskaʊnt/ *v* [T] to regard (a story, piece of news, suggestion, etc.) as unimportant or unlikely to be true or valuable: *Experts have discounted the possibility of a second earthquake in the area.*

dis·coun·te·nance /dɪs'kaʊntᵊnəns/ *v* [T] *fml* to look with disfavour on (behaviour) and try to prevent it

discount rate /'·· ·/ *n AmE* the rate of interest which the Federal Reserve Bank charges American banks that borrow from it —compare BASE RATE, PRIME RATE

discount store /'·· ·/ also **discount house** *n* a shop where goods are sold below the price suggested by the makers

dis·cour·age /dɪs'kʌrɪdʒ‖-'kɜːr-/ *v* [T] **1** to take away courage, confidence, or hope from: *If you fail your driving test the first time, don't let it discourage you/don't be discouraged.* | *a very discouraging result* **2** to prevent or try to prevent (an action), either by showing disapproval or by putting difficulties in the way: *We discourage smoking in this school.* | *The political instability of the region has discouraged investment by big companies.* **3** [**(from)**] to make (someone) unwilling to do something, esp. because of the threat of something unpleasant; DETER: *The bad weather discouraged people from attending the parade.* —opposite **encourage** —**-agingly** *adv*

dis·cour·age·ment /dɪs'kʌrɪdʒmənt‖-'kɜːr-/ *n* **1** [U] the action of discouraging or fact of being discouraged **2** [C] something that discourages

dis·course[1] /'dɪskɔːs‖-ɔːrs/ *n fml* **1** [C **(on, upon)**] a serious speech or piece of writing about a particular subject: *The priest delivered a long discourse on/upon the evils of adultery.* **2** [U] serious conversation: *They passed the hours in learned discourse.* **3** [U] connected language in speech or writing: *to analyse the structure of scientific discourse*

dis·course[2] /dɪs'kɔːs‖-ɔːrs/ *v*

discourse upon/on sthg. *phr v* [T] *fml* to make a long formal speech about: *She discoursed at length upon/on the relationship between crime and environment.*

dis·cour·te·ous /dɪs'kɜːtiəs‖-ɜːr-/ *adj fml* (of people or their behaviour) not polite; showing bad manners; rude: *It was discourteous of you not to thank him.* — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

dis·cour·te·sy /dɪs'kɜːtəsi‖-ɜːr-/ *n* [C;U] *fml* (an act of) discourteousness: *You showed great discourtesy by not asking him to sit down.*

dis·cov·er /dɪs'kʌvəʳ/ *v* [T] **1** to find (something that already existed but was not known about before): *Columbus discovered America in 1492.* | *Scientists have discovered a new virus.* —see INVENT (USAGE) **2** to find out (a fact, the answer to a question or problem, etc.): *We soon discovered the truth.* | *Police have discovered a bomb factory at a country house.* [+*wh-*] *Did you ever discover who sent you the flowers?* | *We never discovered how to open the box.* [+(*that*)] *Scientists have now discovered that this disease is carried by rats.* — **~er** *n*

dis·cov·e·ry /dɪs'kʌvəri/ *n* **1** [U] the event of discovering: *The country became very rich following the discovery of oil.* **2** [C] a fact or thing that has been discovered: *The archaeologists have made a number of important discoveries.*

Discovery [*the*] the ship in which Captain Scott and Sir Ernest Shackleton went to the Antarctic in 1900–04. It is now kept as a MUSEUM on the river Tay in Dundee, where it was built.

disc park·ing /'· ˌ··/ *n* [U] parking in a car park or on a street which is only permitted to drivers whose cars show a special disc which they have bought

dis·cred·it[1] /dɪs'kredᵻt/ *v* [T] **1** to cause people to lack faith in; stop people believing in or having respect for: *The idea that the sun goes round the Earth has long been discredited.* | *Much of his work has been discredited because we now know that he used false information.* | *a deliberate attempt to discredit the government* **2** to refuse to believe in: *One should discredit a good deal of what is printed in newspapers.* —see also CREDIT

discredit[2] *n* **1** [U] loss of belief, trust, or the good opinion of others: *Their behaviour has brought discredit on English football.* | *I know several things* **to her discredit.** (=bad things about her) **2** [S+**to**] someone or something that brings shame or loss of respect; a DISGRACE: *That boy is a discredit to his family.*

dis·cred·i·ta·ble /dɪs'kredᵻtəbəl/ *adj* (of behaviour) causing discredit; SHAMEFUL —**-bly** *adv*

di·screet /dɪ'skriːt/ *adj* (of people or their behaviour) careful and sensible, esp. in what one chooses not to say; careful to avoid causing difficulty or discomfort, esp. in social situations: *a discreet silence* | *It wasn't very discreet of you to ring me up at the office.* —opposite **indiscreet**; compare DISCRETE — **~ly** *adv*

di·screp·an·cy /dɪ'skrepənsi/ *n* [C;U **(between, in)**] difference; lack of agreement or similarity: *There is some discrepancy between their two descriptions.* | *How do you explain these discrepancies in the accounts?*

di·screte /dɪ'skriːt/ *adj esp. tech or fml* separate; DISTINCT: *The picture consisted of a lot of discrete spots of colour.* — compare DISCREET — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

di·scre·tion /dɪ'skreʃən/ *n* [U] **1** the quality of being discreet: *You can trust her to keep your secret – she's* **the soul of discretion.** (=very discreet) **2** the right or ability to decide what is most suitable to be done: *I won't tell you what time to leave – you're old enough to use your own discretion.* | *The hours of the meetings will be fixed at the chairperson's discretion.* (=according to the chairperson's decision) **3 Discretion is the better part of valour** It is better to be careful than to take risks

di·scre·tion·a·ry /dɪ'skreʃənəri‖-neri/ *adj fml* not governed by fixed rules but left to someone's decision: *discretionary powers* | *a discretionary grant of money*

di·scrim·i·nate /dɪ'skrɪmᵻneɪt/ *v* **1** [I **(between)**;T **(from)**] to see or make a difference between things or people; DISTINGUISH: *Death does not discriminate. It comes to everyone.* | *You must learn to discriminate between facts and opinions/to discriminate facts from opinions.* **2** [I **(against, in favour of)**] *usu. derog* to unfairly treat one person or group worse or better than others: *This new law discriminates against lower-paid workers.*

di·scrim·i·nat·ing /dɪ'skrɪmᵻneɪtɪŋ/ *adj apprec* showing an ability to see a difference, esp. in value, between two things, people, etc.; showing good judgment, esp. in matters of taste: *discriminating filmgoers*

di·scrim·i·na·tion /dɪˌskrɪmᵻ'neɪʃən/ *n* [U] **1** [**(against, in favour of)**] *often derog* the act or system of treating different groups or people in different ways, esp. unfairly. In Britain and the US, there are laws against discrimination according to race, religion, or sex: *discrimination against women* | *racial discrimination* **2** *apprec* the quality of being discriminating: *man of discrimination* —see also POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION, REVERSE DISCRIMINATION

di·scrim·i·na·to·ry /dɪ'skrɪmᵻnətəri‖-tɔːri/ *adj often derog* showing or based on discrimination: *discriminatory immigration laws*

di·scur·sive /dɪ'skɜːsɪv‖-ɜːr-/ *adj* (of a person, words, or writing) passing from one subject or idea to another in an informal way, without any clear plan: *to write in a discursive style* — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

dis·cus /'dɪskəs/ *n* a heavy plate-shaped object, now usu. made of wood or plastic, which is thrown as far as possible as a sport

di·scuss /dɪ'skʌs/ *v* [T **(with)**] to consider (something) by talking or writing about it from several points of view: *She discussed her plans with her mother.* | *The chairman refused to discuss the rumours that the company was in difficulties.* | *The second chapter discusses different approaches to the treatment of cancer.* [+*wh-*] *We discussed what to do and where we should go.*

di·scus·sion /dɪ'skʌʃən/ *n* [C;U] a case of or the action of discussing: *to have/hold a discussion about our future plans* | *to settle the matter with as little discussion as possible* | *The question of school books will* **come up for**

discussion *at today's meeting.* | *We haven't made a decision about the new factory yet – the subject is still* **under discussion**. (=being discussed)

dis·dain[1] /dɪs'deɪn/ *n* [U] *fml* complete lack of respect; the feeling that someone or something is worthless or not important enough to deserve one's attention –compare CONTEMPT (1)

disdain[2] *v* [T *not in progressive forms*] *fml* **1** to regard with disdain: *They disdained our offers of help.* **2** [+*to-v*] to refuse to do something because of pride: *She disdained to answer his rude remarks.*

dis·dain·ful /dɪs'deɪnfəl/ *adj* [(**of, towards**)] showing disdain: *a disdainful smile* – ~**ly** *adv*

dis·ease /dɪ'zi:z/ *n* [C;U] (an) illness or unhealthy condition caused by infection, a disorder, etc., but not by an accident: *a serious disease of the liver* | *an infectious disease* | *a blood/brain disease* | *a rare plant disease* | *to contract* (=begin to have) *a disease* | *Many diseases are/Some disease is caused by bacteria.* | (fig.) *diseases of the mind/of society* –**diseased** *adj*: *a diseased bone/plant* | (fig.) *a diseased imagination* –see also HEART DISEASE, SOCIAL DISEASE

▷ USAGE Though **illness** and **disease** are often used in the same way, **illness** is really a state, or length of time, of being unwell, which may be caused by a **disease.** It is **diseases** that can be caught and passed on if they are infectious, and that are the subjects of medical study: *Several children are away from school because of* **illness.** | *a rare heart* **disease**◁

dis·em·bark /ˌdɪsɪm'bɑ:k‖-ɑ:rk/ also **debark** *v* [I;T (**from**)] **a** (of people) to go on shore from a ship **b** to put (people or goods) on shore –opposite **embark** –see BOAT (USAGE) – ~**ation** /ˌdɪsembɑ:'keɪʃən‖-ɑ:r-/ *n* [U]

dis·em·bod·ied /ˌdɪsɪm'bɒdid◂ ‖ -'bɑ:-/ *adj* [A *no comp.*] **1** (of a soul) existing without a body: *the disembodied spirits of the dead* **2** (of a sound) coming from someone who cannot be seen: *Disembodied voices could be heard in the darkness.*

dis·em·bowel /ˌdɪsɪm'baʊəl/ *v* **-ll-** *BrE* ‖ **-l-** *AmE* [T] to take out the bowels of ~**ment** *n* [U]

dis·en·chant·ed /ˌdɪsɪn'tʃɑ:ntɪd‖-'tʃænt-/ *adj* [(**with**)] (of a person) having lost one's belief in the value of something: *disenchanted with my job* –~**chantment** *n* [U]

dis·en·fran·chise /ˌdɪsɪn'fræntʃaɪz/ *v* [T] to take away the right to vote from (a person) –opposite **enfranchise** – ~**ment** /-tʃɪzmənt‖-tʃaɪz-/ *n* [U]

dis·en·gage /ˌdɪsɪn'geɪdʒ/ *v* [I;T (**from**)] **1 a** (esp. of parts of a machine) to come loose and separate **b** to loosen and separate: *Disengage the gears when you park the car.* **2** (of soldiers, ships, etc.) to stop fighting: *The two sides disengaged (themselves) after suffering heavy losses.* – ~**ment** *n* [U (**from**)]

dis·en·tan·gle /ˌdɪsɪn'tæŋgəl/ *v* [T] **1** to remove knots from (rope, hair, etc.) and straighten it out **2** [(**from**)] to free from a position that is difficult to escape from; EXTRICATE: *I finally managed to disentangle myself from the barbed wire/from an unhappy relationship.* **3** [(**from**)] to separate from a confused condition, esp. to find out by doing this: *How can I disentangle the truth from all these lies?* – ~**ment** *n* [U]

dis·e·qui·lib·ri·um /ˌdɪsekwɪ'lɪbriəm, ˌdɪsi:-/ *n* [U] *fml* the loss or lack of EQUILIBRIUM (=balance)

dis·es·tab·lish /ˌdɪsɪ'stæblɪʃ/ *v* [T] to take away the official position from (a national church such as the Church of England) – ~**ment** *n* [U]

dis·fa·vour *BrE* ‖ **-vor** *AmE* /dɪs'feɪvəʳ/ *n* [U] *fml* **1** dislike and disapproval: *The proposal is regarded with extreme disfavour by most doctors.* **2** [(**with**)] the state of being disliked or disapproved of: *John seems to be in disfavour/have fallen into disfavour with the boss.* –see also FAVOUR

dis·fig·ure /dɪs'fɪgəʳ‖-'fɪgjər/ *v* [T] to spoil the beauty of: *a street disfigured by ugly buildings* | *He was disfigured for life by the burns he received in the accident.* – ~**ment** *n* [C;U]

dis·for·est /dɪs'fɒrɪst‖-'fɔ:-, -'fɑ:-/ *v* [T] to DEFOREST – ~**ation** /-ˌfɒrɪ'steɪʃən‖-ˌfɔ:-, -ˌfɑ:-/ *n* [U]

dis·fran·chise /dɪs'fræntʃaɪz/ *v* [T] to DISENFRANCHISE – ~**ment** /-tʃɪz-‖-tʃaɪz-/ *n* [U]

dis·gorge /dɪs'gɔ:dʒ‖-ɔ:r-/ *v* **1** [T] to bring up from the stomach through the mouth: *The dog disgorged the bone it had swallowed.* | (fig.) *chimneys disgorging smoke* **2** [T] *infml* to give up (something stolen): *They persuaded him to disgorge the missing documents.* **3** [I+*adv/prep*;T] (of a river) to flow out; pour out (its water): *The Mississippi disgorges (its waters) into the Gulf of Mexico.*

dis·grace[1] /dɪs'greɪs/ *n* [S;U (**to**)] (a cause of) shame or loss of honour and respect: *His actions brought disgrace on the whole family.* | *Harry's* **in disgrace** (=regarded with disapproval) *because of the way he behaved at the party.* | *Doctors like that are a disgrace to their profession.* | *That old dress of yours is a disgrace.* | *The condition of these old buildings is a national disgrace.*

disgrace[2] *v* [T] **1** to bring shame and dishonour on; be a disgrace to: *You disgraced yourself last night by drinking too much.* **2** [*usu. pass.*] to cause (a public person) to be out of favour; DISCREDIT: *The corrupt official was publicly disgraced.*

dis·grace·ful /dɪs'greɪsfəl/ *adj* bringing or deserving disgrace: *disgraceful behaviour* – ~**ly** *adv*: *disgracefully dirty streets*

dis·grun·tled /dɪs'grʌntld/ *adj* [(**at, with**)] annoyed and disappointed, esp. because of not getting what one wants

dis·guise[1] /dɪs'gaɪz/ *v* [T] **1** [(**as**)] to change the usual appearance or character of (someone or something), in order to hide the truth: *He escaped by disguising himself as a security guard.* | *She disguised her voice when she phoned the newspaper.* **2** to hide (the real and usu. unpleasant state of things): *There's no disguising the fact/It is impossible to disguise the fact that business is bad.* | *He couldn't disguise his disappointment.*

disguise[2] *n* [C;U] something that is worn to hide who one really is: *The thief wore a false beard and glasses as a disguise.* | *a clever disguise* | *She crossed the border* **in disguise**. (=wearing a disguise) | (fig.) *His opinions are just imperialism* **in disguise**. –see also **a blessing in disguise** (BLESSING (4))

dis·gust[1] /dɪs'gʌst, dɪz-/ *n* [U (**at**)] a strong and often sick feeling of dislike caused by an unpleasant sight, sound, or smell, or by behaviour that one strongly disapproves of: *The sight of rotting bodies filled him with disgust.* | *I left the room in disgust (at their conversation).*

disgust[2] *v* [T *not in progressive forms*] to cause a feeling of disgust in: *Your habits disgust me.* | *I'm completely disgusted at/with the way his wife has treated him.*

Disgusted, Tun·bridge Wells /ˈ·ˌ·· ˌ·· ˈ·/ also **Disgusted of Tunbridge Wells** /ˈ·ˌ ·· · ˌ·· ˈ·/ *BrE humor* an amusing name for an imaginary MIDDLE-CLASS person from the town of Tunbridge Wells in S England, who writes strong letters of complaint to newspapers, esp. about things in modern behaviour or modern life which they find shocking or disgusting –see also TUNBRIDGE WELLS

disgusting /dɪs'gʌstɪŋ, dɪz-/ *adj* **1** causing a feeling of disgust: *What a disgusting smell!* | *disgusting food/behaviour* **2** *infml* very unpleasant or bad; AWFUL: *I think it's disgusting the way the government keeps putting up taxes.* ~**ly** *adv*: *disgustingly smelly feet* | *They're disgustingly rich.*

dish[1] /dɪʃ/ *n* **1 a** a large flat often round or OVAL container, sometimes with a lid, from which food is put onto people's plates: *a serving dish* | *a vegetable dish* –compare BOWL; see also DISHES **b** also **dishful** /-fʊl/– the amount a dish will hold: *two dishes/dishfuls of potatoes* **2** *AmE* any plate or bowl **3** food cooked or prepared in a particular way: *an unusual dish of fish cooked in a wine sauce with chestnuts* –see also SIDE DISH **4** any object shaped like a dish, e.g. the large REFLECTOR of a radio TELESCOPE –see also SATELLITE DISH **5** *infml* a sexually attractive person (may be considered offensive to women): *She's quite a dish, isn't she?* –see also DISHY

dish[2] *v* [T] *old-fash infml, esp. BrE* to cause the failure of (a person or his/her hopes)

dish sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] *infml* **1** to serve out to several people; HAND out: *He dished out the soup.* | *He likes dishing out advice.* **2 dish it out** to punish or express disapproval of someone, esp. thoughtlessly or unjustly

dish (sthg. ↔) **up** *phr v* [I;T] to put (the food for a meal) into dishes, ready to be eaten: *Would you help me dish up (the vegetables/the dinner).*

dis·ha·bille /ˌdɪsəˈbiːl/ *n AmE for* DESHABILLE

dis·har·mo·ny /dɪsˈhɑːməni‖-ɑːr-/ *n* [U] disagreement; lack of HARMONY —**-nious** /ˌdɪshɑːˈməʊniəs◂ ‖ -ɑːr-/ *adj*

dish·cloth /ˈdɪʃklɒθ‖-klɔːθ/ *n* a cloth for washing dishes

dis·heart·en /dɪsˈhɑːtn‖-ɑːr-/ *n* [T] to cause to lose hope and confidence; discourage: *Don't be disheartened.* | *disheartening news* —~**ingly** *adv* —~**ment** *n* [C;U]

dish·es /ˈdɪʃɨz/ *n* [P] all the dishes, plates, cups, knives, forks, etc., that have been used for a meal: *Let's wash|do the dishes.*

di·shev·elled also **-eled** *AmE* /dɪˈʃevəld/ *adj* (of a person or their appearance, esp. the hair) very untidy

dish·ful /ˈdɪʃfʊl/ *n* a· DISH[1] (2)

dis·hon·est /dɪsˈɒnɨst‖-ˈɑː-/ *adj* (of a person or their behaviour) not honest; tending to cheat or deceive: *a dishonest politician* | *to get money by dishonest means* | *It was very dishonest of you to lie to them about your qualifications.* —~**ly** *adv*

dis·hon·est·y /dɪsˈɒnɨsti‖-ˈɑː-/ *n* [U] being dishonest; lack of honesty: *The report was a mixture of half-truth and* **downright dishonesty.**

dis·hon·our[1] *BrE* ‖ **-or** *AmE* /dɪsˈɒnəʳ‖-ˈɑː-/ *n* [S(**to**);U] *fml* (something or someone that causes) loss of honour: *His desertion from the army was a dishonour to his family|brought dishonour on his family.*

dishonour[2] *BrE* ‖ **-or** *AmE v* [T] **1** to bring dishonour to; DISGRACE **2** (of a bank) to refuse to pay out money on (a cheque) —compare BOUNCE[1] (3)

dis·hon·ou·ra·ble *BrE* ‖ **-orable** *AmE* /dɪsˈɒnərəbəl‖-ˈɑː-/ *adj* (esp. of behaviour) not honourable; SHAMEFUL: *a dishonourable action* —**-bly** *adv*

dishonourable dis·charge /·ˌ···· ˈ··/ *n* [C;U] (a case of) being made to leave the army with dishonour because one has behaved in an unacceptable way

dish·pan /ˈdɪʃpæn/ *n AmE* a large bowl put into a sink in which one washes dishes: *Mom always puts on moisturizer to prevent* **dishpan hands** (=dry hands caused by washing dishes)

dish tow·el /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n esp. AmE* a cloth for drying dishes; TEA TOWEL —see picture at KITCHEN

dish·wash·er /ˈdɪʃˌwɒʃəʳ‖-ˌwɔː-, -ˌwɑː-/ also **dish·wash·ing ma·chine** /ˈdɪʃwɒʃɪŋ məˌʃiːn‖-wɔː-, -wɑː-/ — *n* **1** a machine that washes DISHES. Although they are becoming more common, it is still considered a LUXURY to own a dishwasher. —see picture at KITCHEN **2** a person who washes DISHES

dishwashing liq·uid /ˈdɪʃwɒʃɪŋ ˌlɪkwɨd‖-wɔː-, -wɑː-/ *n* [U] *AmE* WASHING-UP LIQUID

dish·wa·ter /ˈdɪʃˌwɔːtəʳ‖-ˌwɔː-, -ˌwɑː-/ *n* [U] *often derog* water in which dirty dishes have been washed: *This tea tastes like dishwater.*

dishwater blond /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n* [C;U] *AmE infml* (a person with) hair of a dull light brown colour

dish·y /ˈdɪʃi/ *adj infml* (of a person) having sexual charm: *Have you met her dishy husband?* —see also DISH[1] (5)

dis·il·lu·sion /ˌdɪsɨˈluːʒən/ *v* [T] to free from an ILLUSION (=a wrong idea); tell or show the (esp. unpleasant) truth to: *I hate to disillusion you, but his real reason for helping you was that he was after your money.* —~**ment**, **disillusion** *n* [U]

dis·il·lu·sioned /ˌdɪsɨˈluːʒənd/ *adj* [(**at, about, with**)] feeling bitter and unhappy as a result of having learned the unpleasant truth about someone or something, esp. that one formerly admired or respected: *He's very disillusioned with the present government|at the government's handling of the economy.*

dis·in·cen·tive /ˌdɪsɨnˈsentɪv/ *n* [(**to**)] a practice, system, etc., that discourages action or effort; something that fails to provide an INCENTIVE: *This tax will be a disincentive to industrial development.*

dis·in·cli·na·tion /ˌdɪsɪŋklɨˈneɪʃən/ *n* [S;U (**for, towards**)] (a) lack of willingness: [+*to-v*] *She has shown a marked disinclination to do anything to help us.*

dis·in·clined /ˌdɪsɪnˈklaɪnd/ *adj* [F+*to-v*] unwilling; RELUCTANT: *I'm disinclined to lend him any more money.* —see also INCLINED

dis·in·fect /ˌdɪsɨnˈfekt/ *v* [T] to clean (things and places) with a chemical that can destroy bacteria: *to disinfect a wound|the toilet* —see also INFECT —~**ion** /ˈfekʃən/ *n* [U]

dis·in·fec·tant /ˌdɪsɨnˈfektənt/ *n* [C;U] a chemical used to destroy bacteria

dis·in·fla·tion·a·ry /ˌdɪsɪnˈfleɪʃənəri‖-neri/ *adj* DEFLATIONARY

dis·in·for·ma·tion /ˌdɪsɪnfəˈmeɪʃən ‖ -fər-/ *n* [U] false information spread intentionally to give people mistaken ideas, esp. in political situations

dis·in·gen·u·ous /ˌdɪsɨnˈdʒenjuəs/ *adj* (of a person or behaviour) not open or sincere; slightly dishonest and untruthful: *The car salesman was rather disingenuous, giving the impression that the car used very little fuel.* —compare INGENUOUS —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

dis·in·her·it /ˌdɪsɨnˈherɨt/ *v* [T] to take away from (usu. one's own child) the legal right to receive (INHERIT) one's property after one's death —~**ance** *n* [U]

dis·in·te·grate /dɪsˈɪntɨgreɪt/ *v* [I;T] to break up into small pieces: *The box was so old it just disintegrated when I picked it up.* | (fig.) *The project disintegrated owing to lack of financial backing.* —**-gration** /dɪsˌɪntɨˈgreɪʃən/ *n* [U]

dis·in·ter /ˌdɪsɪnˈtɜːʳ/ *v* **-rr-** [T *often pass.*] *fml* to dig up (esp. a body from a grave) —opposite **inter** —~**ment** *n* [C;U]

dis·in·terest·ed /dɪsˈɪntrɨstɨd/ *adj* **1** willing or able to act fairly because one is not influenced by personal advantage; OBJECTIVE: *As a disinterested observer, who do you think is right?* **2** [(**in**)] *infml* not caring; uninterested: *She seems completely disinterested (in her work).* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

▷ USAGE Compare **disinterested** and **uninterested:** *The argument should be settled by someone who is* **disinterested.** (=who will not gain personally by deciding in favour of one side or the other) | *I'm completely* **uninterested** *in football.* (=I do not find football at all interesting.)◁

dis·in·vest·ment /ˌdɪsɨnˈvestmənt/ *BrE* also **divestment** *AmE*— *n* [U] the act of taking one's money out of a place or business in which one has previously invested (INVEST) it

dis·joint·ed /dɪsˈdʒɔɪntɨd/ *adj* (of words or ideas) not well connected; not following in reasonable order: *She gave a rather disjointed account of the incident.* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

dis·junc·tive /dɪsˈdʒʌŋktɪv/ *adj tech* (of a CONJUNCTION) expressing a choice or opposition between two ideas: *"Or" is disjunctive|is a disjunctive conjunction, but "and" is not.*

disk /dɪsk/ *n AmE* **1** *for* DISC **2** also **disc**— a flat circular piece of plastic used for storing computer information —see also FLOPPY DISK

disk drive /ˈ· ·/ *n* a piece of electrical equipment used for passing information to and from a DISK (2) —see picture at COMPUTER

dis·kette /dɪsˈket‖ˈdɪsket/ *n* a small FLOPPY DISK —see picture at COMPUTER

dis·like[1] /dɪsˈlaɪk/ *v* [T *not in progressive forms*] to consider unpleasant; not to like: *I dislike big cities.* | *Why do you dislike her so much?* [+*v-ing*] *I dislike having to get up early.*

dislike[2] /ˌdɪsˈlaɪk◂/ *n* [C;U (**of, for**)] (a) feeling of disliking: *to have a dislike of|for cats* | *She took an immediate dislike to him.* (=began to dislike him at once) | *We all have our likes and dislikes.* (=things we like and things we dislike)

dis·lo·cate /ˈdɪsləkeɪt‖-ləʊ-/ *v* [T] **1** to put (a bone) out of its proper place: *I dislocated my shoulder when I was playing tennis.* | *a dislocated shoulder* **2** to put (plans, business, machinery, etc.) into disorder; DISRUPT

dis·lo·ca·tion /ˌdɪslə ˈkeɪʃən‖-ləʊ-/ *n* [C;U] (a case of) being dislocated: *people suffering from dislocations and broken bones* | *The storm caused considerable dislocation of air traffic.*

dis·lodge /dɪsˈlɒdʒ‖-ˈlɑːdʒ/ *v* [T (**from**)] to force or knock out of a position: *The coughing dislodged the fishbone from his throat.* —see also LODGE —~**ment** *n* [U]

dis·loy·al /dɪsˈlɔɪəl/ *adj* [(**to**)] not loyal; UNFAITHFUL: *disloyal behaviour* | *disloyal to the king* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ty** *n* [C;U (**to**)]

dis·mal /ˈdɪzməl/ *adj* expressing or causing sadness; lacking hope or happiness; GLOOMY: *a dismal song | dismal weather | a dismal failure | The future looks pretty dismal.* —~**ly** *adv*

dis·man·tle /dɪsˈmæntl/ *v* **1** [I;T] **a** to take (a machine or article) apart **b** to be able to be taken to pieces: *This engine dismantles easily.* **2** [T] to bring to an end (a system, arrangement, etc.), esp. by gradual stages: *The new government set about dismantling their predecessors' legislation.* —~**ment** *n* [U]

dis·mast /dɪsˈmɑːst‖-ˈmæst/ *v* [T] to take away the MASTS (=poles which carry the sails) from (a ship)

dis·may[1] /dɪsˈmeɪ/ *v* [T] to fill with dismay: *We were dismayed by/at the cost.*

dismay[2] *n* [U] a strong feeling of fear, anxiety, and hopelessness: *They listened in/with dismay to the news. | They were filled with dismay by the outcome of the trial. |* **To their dismay,** *the door was locked.*

dis·mem·ber /dɪsˈmembəʳ/ *v* [T] to cut or tear (a body) apart, limb from limb: *The young man's dismembered body was found in a box.* —~**ment** *n* [U]

dis·miss /dɪsˈmɪs/ *v* [T] **1** [(**from**)] to refuse to consider (a subject or idea) seriously: *He just laughed, and dismissed the idea as impossible.* **2** [(**from**)] *fml* to remove from a job; SACK[2]: *If you're late again you'll be dismissed (from your job).* **3** [(**from**)] to send away or allow to go: *The teacher dismissed the class early.* **4** (of a judge) to stop (a court case) before a result is reached: *The judge dismissed all the charges against Smith, saying "Case dismissed!"* **5** (in cricket) to end the INNINGS of (a player or team)

dis·miss·al /dɪsˈmɪsəl/ *n* [C;U] an act of dismissing or case of being dismissed: *She's suing the company for unfair dismissal.*

dis·miss·ive /dɪsˈmɪsɪv/ *adj* [(**of**)] considering a person, idea, etc. to be not worthy of attention or respect: *He might have been less dismissive of their talents if he could have seen their latest achievements.*

dis·mount /dɪsˈmaʊnt/ *v* **1** [I (**from**)] to get off a horse, bicycle, etc. —see BICYCLE (USAGE) **2** [T] to take down (esp. a gun) from its base or support

Dis·ney /ˈdɪzni/, **Walt** /wɔːlt/ (1901–66) an American film producer, esp. of ANIMATED CARTOONS, such as *Donald Duck*, *Mickey Mouse*, and *Bambi*. He also produced nature documentaries (DOCUMENTARY) and adventure films, all of which are very popular with children: *Disney films*

Dis·ney·land /ˈdɪznilænd/ *tdmk* a very large amusement park which opened in 1955 in California in the US. The rides and shows are based on Disney characters and a whole imaginary world has been made: *Fruit bats crossed the circle of the moon, the final touch of Disneyland magic.| The SS constructed Disneyland castles as headquarters for the German leaders.* —see also EURODISNEY and see colour map on page 1374–5

Disney World /ˌ·· ˈ·/ officially called the **Walt Disney World** *tdmk* a very large amusement park opened in 1971 in Florida, featuring many of the characters from Disney films. Both Disneyland and Disney World are popular holiday places for British tourists, esp. those with children. —see also EURODISNEY

dis·o·be·di·ent /ˌdɪsəˈbiːdiənt, ˌdɪsəʊ-/ *adj* [(**to**)] (esp. of a child) failing or refusing to obey: *a disobedient child | He was disobedient to his mother. | It was very disobedient of you to stay out so late.* —see also CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE —~**ly** *adv* —**-ence** *n* [U (**to**)]

dis·o·bey /ˌdɪsəˈbeɪ, ˌdɪsəʊ-/ *v* [I;T] to fail to obey: *Don't dare to disobey! | to disobey the rules | He disobeyed his mother and went to the party.*

dis·o·blige /ˌdɪsəˈblaɪdʒ/ *v* [T] *fml* to go against the wishes of; cause inconvenience to: *It was very disobliging of her to refuse to help.* —**-bligingly** *adv*

dis·or·der[1] /dɪsˈɔːdəʳ‖-ˈɔːr-/ *n* **1** [U] lack of order; confusion; DISARRAY: *The house was in a state of complete disorder because of the young children.* **2** [C;U] (a) violent public expression of political dissatisfaction: *public disorder because of the tax increases* **3** [C;U] (a) failure of part of the body (or mind) to work properly: *suffering from (a) stomach disorder | a rare nervous disorder*

disorder[2] *v* [T] to put into DISORDER[1] (1,3): *a disordered* (=ill) *mind/brain*

dis·or·der·ly /dɪsˈɔːdəli‖-ɔːrdər-/ *adj* **1** untidy; completely lacking organization or order: *a disorderly room* **2** causing trouble, noise, or violence in public; UNRULY: *disorderly conduct/youths | They were arrested for being* **drunk and disorderly.** —**-liness** *n* [U]

disorderly house /ˌ··· ˈ·/ *n law, esp. BrE* a place where women can be hired for sexual pleasure; BROTHEL

dis·or·gan·ized also **-ised** *BrE* /dɪsˈɔːgənaɪzd‖-ˈɔːr-/ *adj* (esp. of arrangements, systems, etc.) in a state of disorder; lacking organization: *The company's accounts are rather disorganized. | I've been a bit disorganized about answering my letters.* —**-ization** /dɪsˌɔːgənaɪˈzeɪʃən‖-ˌɔːrgənə-/ *n* [U]

dis·or·i·en·tate /dɪsˈɔːriənteɪt/ *BrE* ‖ **dis·or·i·ent** /-riənt/ *v* [T *usu. pass.*] to cause (someone) to lose the sense of direction: *I'm completely disorientated – which direction are we heading in?* | (fig.) *His mother's death really disorientated him.* —**-tation** /dɪsˌɔːriənˈteɪʃən/ *n* [U]

dis·own /dɪsˈəʊn/ *v* [T *not in progressive forms*] to refuse to accept as one's own; say that one has no connection with: *The organization disowned him when he was arrested for fraud.*

di·spar·age /dɪˈspærɪdʒ/ *v* [T] to speak about without respect; make (someone or something) sound of little value or importance: *He tends to disparage the efforts of conservationists. | disparaging remarks* —**-agingly** *adv* —~**ment** *n* [C;U]

dis·pa·rate /ˈdɪspərɪt/ *adj fml* (of two or more things) completely different; impossible to compare in their qualities: *Chalk and cheese are disparate substances.* —~**ly** *adv*

di·spar·i·ty /dɪˈspærɪti/ *n* [C;U (**between, in, of**)] *fml* (an example of) being completely different or unequal: *There is (a) considerable disparity in the rates of pay for men and women.* —see also PARITY

dis·pas·sion·ate /dɪsˈpæʃənɪt/ *adj usu. apprec* (of a person or behaviour) calm and fair and not easily influenced by personal feelings —see also PASSIONATE —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

di·spatch[1] **, despatch** /dɪˈspætʃ/ *v* [T] **1** [(**to**)] to send to a place or for a particular purpose: *to dispatch letters/invitations | A messenger was dispatched to take the news to the soldiers at the front.* **2** *infml* to finish (esp. food) quickly: *We soon dispatched the chocolate cake.* **3** *euph* to kill, usu. officially and according to plan

dispatch[2] **, despatch** *n* **1** [C] a message carried by a government official, or sent to a newspaper by one of its writers: *to send/carry a dispatch from Rome to London* **2** [U] *fml* speed and effectiveness: *She did the job with great dispatch.* **3** [U] the act of dispatching —see also DISPATCHES

dispatch box /·ˈ· ·/ *n* **1** [C] a box for official papers **2** [*the*] a box on a central table in the British House of Commons, next to which the most important members of parliament stand to make speeches

di·spatch·es , despatches /dɪˈspætʃɪz/ *n* [P] official reports sent to a government to describe a battle: *He was* **mentioned in dispatches** *for his bravery.*

dispatch rid·er /·ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a messenger, on horseback or motorcycle, who carries dispatches. Many people think of dispatch riders in connection with war and passing important information to other army groups at great speed and often at great personal danger.

di·spel /dɪˈspel/ *v* **-ll-** [T] to drive away (as if) by scattering: *The sun soon dispelled the mist. | Her reassuring words dispelled our doubts/fears.*

di·spen·sa·ble /dɪˈspensəbəl/ *adj* not necessary; that can be dispensed with —opposite **indispensable**

di·spen·sa·ry /dɪˈspensəri/ *n* a place where medicines are dispensed and where medical attention is given, esp. in a hospital or school —compare PHARMACY (1)

dis·pen·sa·tion /ˌdɪspənˈseɪʃən, -pen-/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a case of) permission to disobey a general rule or break a promise, often in a religious context. A dispensation from the Church allows people to be free from a law or promise, such as marriage: *Their marriage was annulled by a special dispensation from the Church.* **2** [U] *fml* the act of dispensing: *the dispensation of justice* **3** [C] *fml* a particular religious system, esp. considered as controlling human affairs during a period: *during the Christian dispensation*

di·spense /dɪ'spens/ *v* [T] **1** [(**to**)] to give out to a number of people: *A judge dispenses justice.* | *This machine dispenses coffee.* | *to dispense favours* **2** to mix and give out (esp. medicines available only on PRESCRIPTION from a doctor)

dispense with sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** to do without or manage to exist without: *We shall have to dispense with the car. We can't afford it.* **2** to make unnecessary: *The new computer system will dispense with the need for keeping files.*

di·spens·er /dɪ'spensəʳ/ *n* **1** a person who dispenses medicines **2** a machine or container from which something can be obtained, e.g. by pushing or by pressing a handle: *a soap dispenser in a public toilet* | *a drinks dispenser* | *a cash dispenser outside a bank*

dispensing chem·ist /ˌ·· '··/ *n* (in Britain) a person who both sells medicines and is trained to dispense them

di·sper·sal /dɪ'spɜːsəl‖-ɜːr-/ *n* [U] the act of dispersing or the fact of being dispersed: *After the dispersal of the crowd, five people were found to be hurt.*

di·sperse /dɪ'spɜːs‖-ɜːrs/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) scatter or spread in different directions, so as to be no longer present: *After school the children dispersed to their homes.* | *The wind dispersed the clouds.* | *Police used tear gas to disperse the crowd.* **2** [T] to place at different points: *Groups of police were dispersed all along the street where the Queen was to pass.*

di·sper·sion /dɪ'spɜːʃən‖dɪ'spɜːrʒən/ *n* [U] *tech* dispersal: *the dispersion of light by a prism*

Dispersion *n* [*the*] the DIASPORA

di·spir·ited /dɪ'spɪrɪ̬tɪ̬d/ *adj lit* discouraged; without hope; in low spirits —~**ly** *adv*

dis·place /dɪs'pleɪs/ *v* [T] **1** to force out of the usual place: *He displaced a bone in his knee while playing football.* | *The indigenous population was soon displaced by the settlers.* **2** to take the place of (as if) by pushing out; SUPPLANT

displaced per·son /ˌ·· '··/ *n* a person who has been forced to leave his or her country because of war or PERSECUTION; a REFUGEE

dis·place·ment /dɪs'pleɪsmənt/ *n* **1** [U] the act of displacing or process of being displaced **2** [S] *tech* the weight of water pushed aside by a ship or floating object

displacement ac·tiv·i·ty /ˌ·'·· ·ˌ···/ *n* [C;U] an activity which replaces someone's usual or expected behaviour, e.g. when the expected behaviour is prevented. The person may not realize the connection between the two: *Obsessively cleaning the house was probably a displacement activity for telling her husband what she really felt.*

di·splay[1] /dɪ'spleɪ/ *v* [T] **1** to arrange or spread out for public view: *to display fruit in a shop window* **2** *rather fml* to show (esp. a feeling or quality): *She displayed great self-control when they told her the news.*

display[2] *n* [C;U] an act of displaying something, or something that is displayed: *a fireworks display* | *The goods were* **on display** *in the shop window.* | *a fine display of fruit* | *an impressive display of skill* | *a sudden display of temper*

dis·please /dɪs'pliːz/ *v* [T] *fml* to cause displeasure to; annoy: *The old lady was most displeased with|by|at the children's noisy behaviour.*

dis·plea·sure /dɪs'pleʒəʳ/ *n* [U] *fml* angry dislike, annoyance, or disapproval: *I* **incurred her displeasure** *by refusing the invitation.*

dis·port /dɪ'spɔːt‖-ɔːrt/ *v* [I;T] *fml* to amuse (oneself) actively

dis·po·sa·ble /dɪ'spəʊzəbəl/ *adj* intended to be used once or for a short time and then thrown away: *disposable paper cups* | *a disposable cigarette lighter*

disposable in·come /ˌ···· '··/ *n* [U] the amount of money left from someone's income when they have paid their tax, their bills, and paid for necessary things like food and housing

dis·pos·al /dɪ'spəʊzəl/ *n* [U] **1** the act of getting rid of something; removal: *waste disposal* | *a team of bomb disposal experts* **2** *fml* the way that people or things are arranged: *the disposal of troops along the frontier* **3 at someone's disposal** able to be used freely by someone: *During their visit I put my car at their disposal.* | *We will use all the means at our disposal to solve this dispute.* **4** *AmE for* GARBAGE DISPOSAL

dis·pose /dɪ'spəʊz/ *v* [T+*obj*+*adv*|*prep*] *fml* to put in place; arrange: *to dispose one's books on the shelves*

dispose of sthg. *phr v* [T] to get rid of or destroy: *The murderer was unable to dispose of the body.* | *I can dispose of your argument quite easily.*

dispose sbdy. **to|towards** sthg. *phr v* [T] *fml* to give a feeling of the stated type towards: *The defendant's youth disposed the judge to leniency.* **3** [F + **to**] having a feeling of the stated type towards: *He was favourably|unfavourably disposed to the proposal.*

dis·posed /dɪ'spəʊzd/ *adj fml* **1** [F+*to-v*] willing: *After the way she treated me, I didn't feel disposed to help her.* —see also INDISPOSED, WELL-DISPOSED **2** [F+**to**] having a tendency: *She is disposed to sudden bouts of depression.*

dis·po·si·tion /ˌdɪspə'zɪʃən/ *n* **1** [C] a particular tendency of character, behaviour, etc.; nature; TEMPERAMENT: *He has a cheerful disposition.* **2** [C;U] *fml* (an) arrangement: *the disposition of the troops on the battlefield* **3** [C;U] *law* an act of formally giving property to someone

dis·pos·sess /ˌdɪspə'zes/ *v* [T (**of**)] *fml* to take property away from: *The rebel leaders were dispossessed of all their property.* | *fighting for the rights of the dispossessed* (=people who have lost all their property or possessions) —~**ion** /'zeʃən/ *n* [U]

Dis·prin /'dɪsprɪ̬n/ *n* [C;U] *tdmk* a type of PAINKILLER made by Reckitt and Colman Limited; Disprin is not a very strong painkiller and it is used by people in their homes. Disprin PILL*s* are usu. dissolved (DISSOLVE) in water and then drunk.

dis·proof /dɪs'pruːf/ *n* [U (**of**)] *fml* the act of disproving or something (such as a fact) that disproves

dis·pro·por·tion /ˌdɪsprə'pɔːʃən‖-ɔːr-/ *n* [S;U (**between**)] a lack of PROPORTION; lack of proper relation between the parts: *a disproportion between their wealth and our poverty*

dis·pro·por·tion·ate /ˌdɪsprə'pɔːʃənɪ̬t‖-ɔːr-/ *adj* [(**to**)] not in proper PROPORTION; too much or too little in relation to something else: *We spend a disproportionate amount of our income on rent.* | *The reaction of the police was disproportionate to the threat that the rioters presented.* —~**ly** *adv*

dis·prove /dɪs'pruːv/ *v* [T] to prove (something) to be false

di·spu·ta·ble /dɪ'spjuːtəbəl, 'dɪspjʊ̬-/ *adj* not necessarily true; able to be questioned; DEBATABLE —opposite **indisputable** —**bly** *adv*

dis·pu·ta·tion /ˌdɪspjʊ̬'teɪʃən/ *n old use* a speech or argument, esp. a formal one made according to certain rules of reasoning

dis·pu·ta·tious /ˌdɪspjʊ̬'teɪʃəs/ *adj fml* tending to argue; ARGUMENTATIVE —~**ly** *adv*

di·spute[1] /dɪ'spjuːt/ *v* **1** [I;T (**about, over, with**)] to argue (about something), esp. angrily and for a long period: *The two governments disputed (over) the ownership of the territory.* | *The question was* **hotly disputed** *in the Senate.* **2** [T] to disagree about or question the truth or correctness of: *I dispute the minister's figures – the true cost of the project is much higher.* | *"There are hundreds of cases." "I would dispute that."* **3** [T] to struggle in order to gain or keep, esp. in war: *The defending army disputed every inch of ground.*

dispute[2] /dɪ'spjuːt, 'dɪspjuːt/ *n* [C;U (**about, with, over**)] (an) argument or quarrel, esp. an official one between one group or organization and another: *a pay dispute* | *a prolonged legal dispute over the ownership of the land* | *The miners were* **in dispute with** *their employers over pay.* | *She is* **beyond all dispute|without dispute** (=undoubtedly) *the best chemist in the firm.* | *This question is still* **in|under dispute.** (=being argued about) | *They claim to provide the best service in the business, but I think that's* **open to dispute.** (=can be questioned)

disputed ter·ri·to·ry /ˌ·· '····/ *n* [C;U] (an area of) land claimed by two or more states: *the disputed territory of Nagorno Karabakh*

dis·qual·i·fi·ca·tion /dɪsˌkwɒlɪ̬fɪ̬'keɪʃən‖-ˌkwɑː-/ *n* **1** [U] the act of disqualifying or process of being disqualified: *Any attempt at cheating will result in immediate disqualification.* **2** [C (**for**)] something that disqualifies

dis·qual·i·fy /dɪs'kwɒlɪ̬faɪ‖-'kwɑː-/ *v* [T (**for, from**)] to

make or declare unfit, unsuitable, or unable to do something: *His youth|His criminal record disqualified him for the job|from getting the job.* | *Three of the athletes were disqualified for taking drugs.* | *to be disqualified from driving|from holding public office*

dis·qui·et[1] /dɪs'kwaɪət/ *v* [T] *fml* to make anxious: *a disquieting remark*

disquiet[2] *n* [U] anxiety and dissatisfaction

dis·qui·si·tion /ˌdɪskwɪ'zɪʃən/ *n* [(**on, about**)] *fml* a long (perhaps too long) speech or written report

Dis·rae·li /dɪz'reɪli/, **Ben·ja·min** /'bendʒəmɪn/ (1804–81) an English politician and writer of Jewish origin. He was PRIME MINISTER in 1868 and from 1874 to 1880.

dis·re·gard[1] /ˌdɪsrɪ'gɑːd‖-ɑːrd/ *v* [T] to pay no attention to; treat as unimportant or unworthy of notice: *She completely disregarded all our objections.*

disregard[2] *n* [U (**for, of**)] lack of proper attention to or respect for someone or something; NEGLECT: *The government has shown a total disregard for the needs of the poor.* | *reckless disregard of passenger safety*

dis·re·pair /ˌdɪsrɪ'peəʳ/ *n* [U] the state of needing repair; bad condition: *The old houses had* **fallen into disrepair.**

dis·rep·u·ta·ble /dɪs'repjʊtəbəl/ *adj* having a bad character; having or deserving a bad REPUTATION: *disreputable people|behaviour* | *a disreputable gambling club* —opposite **reputable** —**-bly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

dis·re·pute /ˌdɪsrɪ'pjuːt/ *n* [U] loss or lack of people's good opinion; bad REPUTE: *The hotel* **fell into disrepute** *after the shooting incident.* | *This pointless prosecution has* **brought** *the law* **into disrepute.**

dis·re·spect /ˌdɪsrɪ'spekt/ *n* [U] lack of respect or politeness —~**ful** *adj* —~**fully** *adv*

dis·robe /dɪs'rəʊb/ *v* [I] *fml* to take off (esp. ceremonial outer) clothing: *After the trial, the judge disrobed and left the court.*

dis·rupt /dɪs'rʌpt/ *v* [T] to bring or throw into disorder: *An accident has disrupted railway services into and out of the city.* | *A crowd of protesters disrupted the meeting.* —~**ion** /'rʌpʃən/ *n* [C;U] : *The strike has caused widespread disruption of transport services.* —~**ive** /'rʌptɪv/ *adj* : *He has a disruptive influence on the other children.* —~**ively** *adv*

dis·sat·is·fac·tion /dɪˌsætɪs'fækʃən, dɪsˌsæ-/ *n* [U (**at, with**)] lack of satisfaction; displeasure: *her dissatisfaction at his late arrival*

dis·sat·is·fied /dɪ'sætɪsfaɪd, dɪs'sæ-/ *adj* [(**with**)] feeling or showing dissatisfaction; not satisfied: *dissatisfied customers* | *He seemed dissatisfied with my explanation.*

dis·sat·is·fy /dɪ'sætɪsfaɪ, dɪs'sæ-/ *v* [T] to fail to satisfy; displease

dis·sect /dɪ'sekt, daɪ-/ *v* [T] **1** to cut up (esp. the body of a plant or animal) so as to study the shape and relationship of the parts, as medical students do: *to dissect a frog* **2** to study very carefully, esp. so as to find the faults: *The lawyers dissected his claim to the title.*

dis·sec·tion /dɪ'sekʃən, daɪ-/ *n* **1** [C;U] (an example of) the act of dissecting or process of being dissected **2** [C] a part of an animal or plant that has been dissected

dis·sem·ble /dɪ'sembəl/ *v* [I;T] *fml* to hide (one's true feelings, intentions, etc.) —~**bler** *n*

dis·sem·i·nate /dɪ'semɪneɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to spread (news, ideas, etc.) widely —**-nation** /dɪˌsemɪ'neɪʃən/ *n* [U] : *the dissemination of information*

dis·sen·sion /dɪ'senʃən/ *n* [C;U (**among, between**)] (a) disagreement, esp. leading to argument: *His words caused a great deal of dissension among his followers.*

dis·sent[1] /dɪ'sent/ *n* **1** [U] refusal to agree, esp. with an opinion that is held by most people; difference of opinion: *The proposal was approved with little dissent.* | *I must express my strong dissent.* —opposite **assent** —see also CONSENT **2** [C] *esp. AmE* a judge's opinion, especially that of a SUPREME COURT judge, which does not agree with that of most of the other judges of a law case **3** [U] *now rare* religious separation from the Church of England

dissent[2] *v* [I (**from**)] to express disagreement, esp. with an opinion that is held by most people: *Only one member of the committee dissented from the final report.* | *The motion was passed with only one or two* **dissenting voices.**

dis·sent·er /dɪ'sentəʳ/ *n* **1** a person who dissents **2** (*often cap.*) a member of a church that has become separate from the Church of England (from Protestant dissenters in the 16th century who refused to accept the DOCTRINE of the established church); NONCONFORMIST

dis·ser·ta·tion /ˌdɪsə'teɪʃən‖ˌdɪsər-/ *n* [(**on**)] a long usu. written treatment of a subject, esp. one written for a higher university degree —compare THESIS

dis·ser·vice /dɪ'sɜːvɪs, dɪs'sɜː-‖-ɜːr-/ *n* [S;U (**to**)] harm or a harmful action: *You have done a serious disservice to your country by selling military secrets to our enemies.*

dis·si·dent /'dɪsɪdənt/ *n* a person who openly and often strongly disagrees with an opinion, a group, or a government. Typically, dissidents are people who oppose cruel and unjust political systems and who are persecuted (PERSECUTE) for their opinions: *political dissidents* —**dissident** *adj* —**-dence** *n* [U]

dis·sim·i·lar /dɪ'sɪmɪləʳ, dɪs'sɪ-/ *adj* [(**to**)] (*often in negatives*) unlike; not similar: *The two writers are not dissimilar in style.* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ity** /dɪˌsɪmɪ'lærɪti, dɪsˌsɪ-/ *n* [C;U]

dis·sim·u·late /dɪ'sɪmjʊleɪt/ *v* [I;T] *fml* to hide (one's true feelings); DISSEMBLE —**-lation** /dɪˌsɪmjʊ'leɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

dis·si·pate /'dɪsɪpeɪt/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) disappear or scatter: *The crowd soon dissipated when the police arrived.* **2** [T] to spend, waste, or use up foolishly; SQUANDER: *He dissipated his large fortune in a few years of heavy spending.*

dis·si·pat·ed /'dɪsɪpeɪtɪd/ *adj* (typical of a person) who wastes his/her life in search of foolish or dangerous pleasure: *dissipated habits|young men*

dis·si·pa·tion /ˌdɪsɪ'peɪʃən/ *n* [U] **1** the act of causing something to be scattered or wasted: *the dissipation of our valuable oil reserves* **2** the continual search for foolish or dangerous pleasure: *a life of dissipation*

dis·so·ci·ate /dɪ'səʊʃieɪt, -sieɪt/ also **disassociate**— *v* [T (**from**)] to regard as, or cause to be, separate or unconnected: *Can the private and public lives of a politician ever be dissociated?* | *You can't dissociate yourself from the actions of your colleagues in the union.* —**-ation** /dɪˌsəʊʃi'eɪʃən, -si'eɪʃən/ *n* [U]

dis·so·lute /'dɪsəluːt/ *adj* (typical of a person) who leads a bad or immoral life —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

dis·so·lu·tion /ˌdɪsə'luːʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the ending or breaking up of an association, group, marriage, etc.: *the dissolution of Parliament before a general election* **2** [U] decay, esp. death: *the dissolution of the Roman Empire* **3** [C] *AmE law* a DIVORCE

Dissolution of the Mon·as·teries /··ˌ··· ·'···‖··ˌ··· ·'···/ [*the*] the destruction of the monasteries (MONASTERY) by soldiers of the English King Henry VIII in 1539 after he became Head of the English Church and broke with the Church of Rome

dis·solve /dɪ'zɒlv‖dɪ'zɑːlv/ *v* **1** [I;T] to make or become liquid by putting into liquid: *Sugar dissolves in water.* | *Dissolve the tablets in warm water.* **2** [I;T] **a** to cause (an association, group, etc.) to end or break up: *The military government dissolved the country's parliament and suspended all political activity.* **b** (of an association, group, etc.) to end or break up **3** [I+**in/into**] to lose one's self-control under the influence of strong feeling: *to dissolve in tears|laughter* **4** [I] to disappear; FADE **away**: *Opposition to the idea gradually dissolved.* | *The vision dissolved before her eyes.* —see also DISSOLUTION

dis·so·nance /'dɪsənəns/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a) combination of musical notes which do not sound pleasant when heard together; DISCORD (2) **2** [S;U] a lack of agreement in beliefs, or between beliefs and actions —**-nant** *adj* : *dissonant opinions*

dis·suade /dɪ'sweɪd/ *v* [T (**from**)] to advise (someone) against doing something; persuade not to: *I tried to dissuade her (from getting married).* —see also PERSUADE —**-suasion** /dɪ'sweɪʒən/ *n* [U]

dis·taff /'dɪstɑːf‖'dɪstæf/ *n* **1** the stick from which the thread is pulled in hand spinning **2 on the distaff side** on the woman's side of the family

dis·tance[1] /'dɪstəns/ *n* **1** [C;U (**to, from, between**)] (the amount of) separation in space or time; the amount of space or time between two points or events: *What is the distance between London and Glasgow|from London to Glasgow?* | *The school is some distance* (=quite far) *away.* |

My office is within (easy) walking distance of the station. | *The dog looked dangerous, so I decided to* **keep my distance.** (=stay far enough away from it) | *I can hardly remember him at this distance of/in time.* | *These planes can cover long distances in a very short time.* | *My office is* **within spitting distance of** (=very near) Westminster. —see also LONG DISTANCE, MIDDLE DISTANCE **2** [(*the*) S] a distant point or place: *You can see the ancient ruins in the distance.* | *It looks quite nice from a distance, but when you get close you can see that it's pretty awful.* | *The pyramids are visible at a distance of several kilometres.* **3** [C;U] social separation or coldness in personal relations: *There has been a great distance between us since our quarrel.* | *My father always* **kept me at a distance.** (=refused to become too friendly with me)

distance[2] *v* [T (**from**)] to separate (esp. oneself), esp. in the mind or feelings: *to distance oneself from the actions of one's government*

distance learn·ing /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [U] *BrE* the study of a subject by students who do not attend classes but use, for example, television, computers, and local teachers —see also OPEN COLLEGE, OPEN UNIVERSITY

dis·tant /ˈdɪstənt/ *adj* **1** [(**from**)] separate in space or time; far off: *distant lands* | *the distant sound of a bell* | *in the* **dim and distant past** | *We hope to go there* **in the not-too-distant future.** (= fairly soon but not very soon) [after *n*] *30 miles distant (from the village)* **2** not very closely related: *a distant connection between two ideas* | *The two boys are distant relations.* **3** showing lack of friendliness; RESERVED: *a distant manner*

dis·tant·ly /ˈdɪstəntli/ *adv* **1** not closely: *Those two people/ideas are distantly related.* **2** in a manner that shows inattention, social separation, or lack of friendliness: *She looked at me distantly.*

dis·taste /dɪsˈteɪst/ *n* [S;U (**for**)] a not very strong feeling of dislike, esp. of something unpleasant, unattractive, or offensive: *She looked at his shabby clothes with distaste.* | *a distaste for town life*

dis·taste·ful /dɪsˈteɪstfəl/ *adj* [(**to**)] unpleasant; disagreeable; causing distaste: *a rather distasteful duty* | *a distasteful joke* —see TASTELESS (USAGE) — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

dis·tem·per[1] /dɪˈstempəʳ/ *n* [U] *esp. BrE* paint used in the past for walls and other surfaces and which can be made thinner by mixing with water —**distemper** *v* [T] : *to distemper the walls*

distemper[2] *n* [U] an infectious disease of animals, esp. dogs, causing fever, disordered breathing, and general weakness

dis·tem·pered /dɪˈstempəd‖-ərd/ *adj lit or old use* mad: *a distempered mind*

dis·tend /dɪˈstend/ *v* [I;T] *fml* to (cause to) swell because of pressure from inside: *His stomach was distended because of lack of food.* —**tension** /dɪˈstenʃən/ *n* [U]

dis·til usu. **-till** *AmE* /dɪˈstɪl/ *v* **-ll-** [T] **1 a** to make (a liquid) into gas and then make the gas into liquid: *Water can be made pure by distilling it.* | *distilled water* **b** to make (alcoholic drinks) by this method: *Brandy is distilled from wine.* **2** to take and separate the most important parts of (a book, a subject, etc.): *The televised interview was distilled from 16 hours of film.* — **~lation** /ˌdɪstəˈleɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

dis·til·ler /dɪˈstɪləʳ/ *n* a person or company that distils, esp. one that produces strong alcoholic drink

dis·til·le·ry /dɪˈstɪləri/ *n* a factory or business firm where alcoholic drinks are produced by distilling: *a whisky distillery*

dis·tinct /dɪˈstɪŋkt/ *adj* **1** [(**from**)] clearly different or separate: *Those two ideas are quite distinct (from each other).* | *The party split into two distinct groups.* | *The rule only applies to nationals of the country,* **as distinct from** *foreign visitors.* **2** clearly seen, heard, understood, etc.; noticeable: *a distinct smell of burning* | *There's a distinct possibility that she'll be appointed as a director.* — **~ly** *adv*: *I distinctly* (=clearly) *remember telling you to come.* — **~ness** *n* [U]

▷ USAGE Anything clearly noticed is **distinct:** *There's a* **distinct** *smell of beer in this room.* A thing or quality that is clearly different from others of its kind is **distinctive,** or **distinct** from: *Beer has a very* **distinctive** *smell. It's quite* **distinct** *from the smell of wine.*◁

dis·tinc·tion /dɪˈstɪŋkʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U (**between**)] the fact of being distinct; clear difference: *I can't see any distinction between these two cases.* | *It's important to* **draw a distinction** *between the policies of the leaders and the views of their supporters.* | *a rather* **fine distinction** (=one that is difficult to notice) **2** [S;U] the quality of being unusually good; excellence: *a writer of real distinction* **3** [C] a special mark of honour, fame, or excellence: *These are the highest distinctions that have ever been given by our government.* | *She got a distinction in her chemistry exam.* | *This country* **enjoys the dubious distinction** *of having the highest rate of inflation in the world.*

dis·tinc·tive /dɪˈstɪŋktɪv/ *adj* clearly marking a person or thing as different from others: *She has a very distinctive way of walking.* | *a distinctive flavour* —see DISTINCT (USAGE) — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

dis·tin·guish /dɪˈstɪŋgwɪʃ/ *v* **1** [T *not in progressive forms*] to see, hear, or notice as being separate or distinct; recognize clearly: *I can distinguish them by their uniforms.* | *Can you distinguish the different buildings at such a distance?* **2** [I (**between**);T (**from**) *not in progressive forms*] to recognize differences (between): *It's important to distinguish between compound interest and simple interest.* | *Small children can't distinguish right from wrong.* **3** [T *not in progressive forms*] *fml* to make different: *Elephants are distinguished by their long trunks.* **4 distinguish oneself** to behave or perform noticeably well: *She distinguished herself in the debate.*

dis·tin·guish·a·ble /dɪˈstɪŋgwɪʃəbəl/ *adj* that can be clearly or easily distinguished: *A black object is not easily distinguishable on a dark night.* | *Those two objects/ideas are not easily distinguishable (from each other).* —opposite **indistinguishable**

dis·tin·guished /dɪˈstɪŋgwɪʃt/ *adj* [(**for**)] having excellent quality or great fame and respect: *a distinguished performance/politician* | *distinguished for his scientific achievements* | *a distinguished-looking old man* —opposite **undistinguished** —see FAMOUS (USAGE)

dis·tort /dɪˈstɔːt‖-ɔːrt/ *v* [T] **1** to give a false or dishonest account of; twist out of the true meaning: *Stop distorting what I've said.* | *The newspapers gave a distorted account of what had happened.* **2** to twist out of a natural, usual, or original shape or condition: *a face distorted by/with anger* | *a radio that distorts sound* — **~ion** /dɪˈstɔːʃən‖-ɔːr-/ *n* [C;U]

dis·tract /dɪˈstrækt/ *v* [T (**from**)] to take (a person's attention) off something, esp. for a short time: *She was distracted (from her work) by the noise outside.* | *a distracting influence* | *The celebrations distracted public attention from the government's problems.*

dis·tract·ed /dɪˈstræktɨd/ *adj* [(**with**)] very anxious and unable to think clearly because one is troubled about many things: *a distracted look* | *distracted with worry about her daughter* — **~ly** *adv*

dis·trac·tion /dɪˈstrækʃən/ *n* **1** [C] something or someone that distracts, esp. an amusement: *There are too many distractions here to work properly.* **2** [U] an anxious confused state of mind: *The child's continual crying* **drove me to distraction.** | *She loves him* **to distraction. 3** [U] distracting or being distracted: *Let's invite her to the disco — she needs distraction.*

dis·train /dɪˈstreɪn/ *v* [I (**upon**)] *law* to take goods from someone in order to force payment of a debt

dis·trait /dɪˈstreɪ/ *adj Fr* not paying close attention to one's surroundings, esp. because of worry; distracted

dis·traught /dɪˈstrɔːt/ *adj* [(**with**)] very anxious and troubled almost to the point of madness: *distraught with grief/worry*

dis·tress[1] /dɪˈstres/ *n* [U] **1** great suffering of the mind or body; pain or great discomfort: *The sick man showed signs of distress.* | *Your thoughtless behaviour has caused us all a great deal of distress.* **2** suffering caused by lack of money: *a company in financial distress* **3** a state of danger or great difficulty: *Send out a* **distress signal.** *The ship is sinking.* | *a* **damsel in distress**

distress[2] *v* [T *often pass.*] to cause distress to: *We were distressed to find that the children had not returned.*

dis·tressed /dɪˈstrest/ *adj BrE euph* **1** poor; IMPOVERISHED: *distressed gentlefolk/circumstances/area* **2** (of furniture) treated to look old and well used in an attractive way

dis·tress·ing /dɪ'stresɪŋ/ also **dis·tress·ful** /dɪ'stresfəl/– *adj* causing distress: *distressing news* – ~**ly** *adv*

dis·trib·ute /dɪ'strɪbju:t/ *v* [T] **1** [(**to, among**)] to divide and give out among several people, places, etc: *to distribute the prizes to|among the winners* | *distributing leaflets to the crowd* **2** [(**over**)] to spread out through an area: *This new machine distributes seed evenly and quickly (over the whole field).* | *This species of plant is widely distributed.* (=is found in many different areas) **3** to supply (goods) in a particular area, esp. to shops

dis·tri·bu·tion /ˌdɪstrə'bju:ʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U] the act of dividing and giving out among several people, places, etc.: *the distribution of prizes* | *The newspaper is having distribution problems in the north of the country.* **2** [S;U] the position or arrangement of (members of a group) in space or time: *The distribution of these animals has changed in the last century.* **3** [S;U] the sharing out of profits by a company among its SHAREHOLDERS – ~**al** *adj*

dis·trib·u·tive /dɪ'strɪbjʊtɪv/ *adj* [A *no comp.*] **1** distributing; connected with distribution: *the* **distributive trades** *of transport and marketing* **2** *tech* (of a word) concerning each single member of a group: *Distributive words in English include "each", "every", "either", and "neither".* – ~**ly** *adv*

dis·trib·u·tor /dɪ'strɪbjʊtəʳ/ *n* **1** a person or organization that distributes goods: *The company is the local distributor for Volkswagen spare parts.* **2** an instrument which sends electric current in the right order to each SPARK PLUG in a car engine –see picture at ENGINE

dis·trict /'dɪstrɪkt/ *n* **1** a fixed division of a country, a city, etc., made for various official purposes: *a postal district* **2** an area with a special and particular quality, or of a particular kind: *the Lake District in northern England* | *a poor district in a city* –see AREA (USAGE)

district at·tor·ney /ˌ·· ·'··/ *n* (*often caps.*) *AmE* in the US, the state official who is responsible for bringing legal charges against criminals in a particular area –compare CROWN PROSECUTION SERVICE

district coun·cil /ˌ·· '··/ *n* in Britain, a government authority elected by the people living in an area , which deals with local services, such as housing, RUBBISH COLLECTION, and PLANNING PERMISSION: *On May 2nd you will have the chance to elect a new District Council to serve you for the next four years.*

district court /ˌ·· '·/ *n* in the US, the court where law cases are first heard –see also extra information on page 742

district nurse /ˌ·· '·/ *n* in Britain, a nurse, employed by a local authority, who visits and treats people in their own homes –compare HEALTH VISITOR

District of Co·lum·bi·a /ˌ·· · ·'···/ also **the District** (*abbrev.* **DC**) [*the*] Washington, D.C.; a special FEDERAL area in the E of the US which includes Washington, the capital

district vis·it·or /ˌ·· '···/ *n* in Britain, a church worker who visits people who are sick, old, or in need of help in an area

dis·trust[1] /dɪs'trʌst/ *v* [T] to lack trust or confidence in; have little faith in: *He distrusts banks, so he keeps his money at home.*

distrust[2] *n* [S;U (**of**)] lack of trust: *deep distrust between the former enemies* | *I have a distrust of aeroplanes.* – ~**ful** *adj* – ~**fully** *adv* – ~**fulness** *n* [U]

dis·turb /dɪ'stɜ:b‖-ɜ:rb/ *v* [T] **1** to interrupt (esp. a person who is working) or break the sleep of: *I'm sorry to disturb you, but could you tell me how this machine works?* | *Did the cats disturb you in the night?* **2** to make (someone) anxiously dissatisfied; worry: *We were rather disturbed by the way the government tried to cover up the truth.* | *a disturbing new development in the dispute between the two countries* **3** to change the usual or natural condition of: *A light wind disturbed the surface of the water.* **4 disturb the peace** *law* to cause public disorder

dis·turb·ance /dɪ'stɜ:bəns‖-ɜ:r-/ *n* [C;U] **1** an act of disturbing or the state of being disturbed: *They were charged by the police with* **causing a disturbance.** (=making a lot of noise and possibly fighting) **2** something that disturbs: *The noise of traffic is a continual disturbance.*

dis·turbed /dɪ'stɜ:bd‖-ɜ:r-/ *adj* ill or seriously upset in the mind or the feelings: *emotionally disturbed children*

dis·u·nite /ˌdɪsju:'naɪt/ *v* [T] to cause disunity in

dis·u·ni·ty /dɪs'ju:nɨti/ *n* [U] lack of UNITY, esp. with disagreement and quarrelling; DISSENSION

dis·use /dɪs'ju:s/ *n* [U] the state of no longer being used: *an old law that has* **fallen into disuse**

dis·used /ˌdɪs'ju:zd◂/ *adj* no longer used: *a disused mine|railway line*

di·syl·lab·ic /ˌdaɪsɨ'læbɪk, ˌdɪ-/ *adj tech* (of a word) having TWO SYLLABLES

ditch[1] /dɪtʃ/ *n* a V- or U-shaped passage cut into the ground, esp. for water to flow through: *a drainage ditch by the side of the road* –see also LAST-DITCH

ditch[2] *v* [T] *sl* to get rid of; leave suddenly; ABANDON: *She got bored with her boyfriend and ditched him.* | *He promised to drive us to London but he ditched us 50 miles away.* | *I think we'd better ditch the last part. It's too long.*

dith·er[1] /'dɪðəʳ/ *v* [I (**about**)] *infml* to behave nervously and uncertainly because one cannot decide: *For God's sake stop dithering and make up your mind!*

dither[2] *n* [S] *infml* a state of nervous inability to make decisions: *I'm all* **in a dither** *about the concert.*

di·tran·si·tive /ˌdaɪ'trænsɨtɪv, -zɨ-/ *adj tech* (of a verb) that must take both an INDIRECT OBJECT and a DIRECT OBJECT. Ditransitive verbs are marked [T +*obj(i)*+*obj(d)*] in this dictionary: *The verb "give" is ditransitive in the sentence "She gave me the book".* –compare INTRANSITIVE, TRANSITIVE –**ditransitive** *n*

dit·to /'dɪtəʊ/ *n* **-tos** **1** a mark ( ) used to show that a word, which is usu. directly above the mark, e.g. in a list, is repeated; a sign meaning "the same":

one black pencil at 12p
" blue " " 15p

(=one black pencil at 12p, one blue pencil at 15p) **2** *infml* (I think) the same: *"I'm really annoyed about this." "Ditto."* (=I am, too) **3** *AmE a* PHOTOCOPY

dit·ty /'dɪti/ *n often humor* a short simple song

di·u·ret·ic /ˌdaɪjʊ'retɪk/ *n, adj* (a medicine or food) that increases the flow of URINE

di·ur·nal /daɪ'ɜ:nəl‖-'ɜ:r-/ *adj fml or tech* (esp. in the study of the sun, stars, etc.) taking one day; daily: *the diurnal rotation of the Earth* – ~**ly** *adv*

di·van /dɪ'væn‖'daɪvæn/ *n* **1** a long soft seat or bed (**divan bed**) on a base, usu. without back or arms **2** *(often cap.)* (in former times) a state council room in some Eastern countries, esp. Turkey

dive[1] /daɪv/ *v* **dived** also **dove** /dəʊv/*AmE*– [I] **1** [(IN, **off, from, into**)] to throw oneself head first into water: *The girl dived into the swimming pool.* | *The bird dived into the water to catch the fish.* –see also SKIN DIVE **2** [(DOWN, **for**)] to go under the surface of the water: *They are diving for gold from the Spanish wreck.* | *a* **diving suit** (=a special suit worn by people who dive) **3** [+*adv|prep*] to move quickly on land or in air, downwards, head first, or out of sight: *The rabbit dived into its hole.* | *He dived into the doorway|under the table so they wouldn't see him.* | *The engines failed and the plane dived to the ground.* | *He dived into* (=put his hands into) *the bag and brought out two red apples.*

dive in *phr v* [I] to start doing something quickly and eagerly: *We all dived in and helped ourselves to the food.*

dive[2] *n* **1** an act of diving: *a graceful dive into the pool* | *When the shots sounded in the street, we* **made a dive for** *the nearest doorway.* **2** *infml* a not very respectable place for meeting, drinking, etc.: *a low dive* **3 take a dive** *sl* to agree to lose a match dishonestly, esp. a BOXING match

dive-bomb /'· ·/ *v* [I;T] (of a plane) to dive and then bomb: *to dive-bomb a crowd of people* – ~**er** *n*

div·er /'daɪvəʳ/ *n* a person who dives, esp. one who works at the bottom of the sea in special clothing with a supply of air

di·verge /daɪ'vɜ:dʒ, dɨ-‖-ɜ:r-/ *v* [I (**from**)] to separate and go on in different directions: *This is where our opinions diverge (from each other).*

di·ver·gence /daɪ'vɜ:dʒəns, dɨ-‖-ɜ:r-/ *n* [C;U] (an example of) the action or amount of diverging –-**gent** *adj* : *divergent opinions* –-**gently** *adv*

di·vers /'daɪvəz‖-ərz/ *adj* [A] *old use or humor* many different: *Divers persons were present, of all stations in life.*

di·verse /daɪ'vɜ:s‖dɨ'vɜ:rs, daɪ-/ *adj* different (from each other); showing variety: *many diverse interests* | *The*

programme deals with subjects as diverse as pop music and ancient Greek drama. –~**ly** *adv*

di·ver·si·fy /daɪˈvɜːsɨfaɪ‖dɨˈvɜːr-, daɪ-/ *v* **1** [I;T] to make or become different in form, quality, aims, or activities; vary **2** [I (**into**)] (of a business) to change to producing more and different products in order to make a business larger or to protect it if the market for certain products fails: *Because of over-production of dairy products, dairy farmers in Europe are being encouraged to diversify into non-agricultural uses of land, such as golf courses.* | *Our factory is trying to diversify (its range of products).* (=to make a large number of different products) | *a publishing company that is now diversifying into the software market* –**fication** /daɪˌvɜːsɨfɨˈkeɪʃən‖dɨˌvɜːr-, daɪ-/ *n* [U]

di·ver·sion /daɪˈvɜːʃən, dɨ-‖-ɜːrʒən/ *n* **1** [C;U] a turning aside from a main or usual course, activity, or use: *the diversion of a river to supply water to the farms* | *a traffic diversion due to an accident on the main road* **2** [C] something that turns someone's attention away from something else that one does not wish to be noticed: *I think your last argument was a diversion to make us forget the main point.* | *The bank robbers* **created a diversion** *to distract the attention of the police.* **3** [C] something that amuses people: *Big cities have lots of cinemas and other diversions.*

di·ver·sion·a·ry /daɪˈvɜːʃənəri, dɨ-‖-ɜːrʒəneri/ *adj* intended to form a diversion from the most important operation or main point: *diversionary tactics*

di·ver·si·ty /daɪˈvɜːsɨti, dɨ-‖-ɜːr-/ *n* [S;U (**of**)] the condition of being different or having differences; variety: *a considerable diversity of opinion on this issue* | *the cultural diversity of the United States*

di·vert /daɪˈvɜːt, dɨ-‖-ɜːrt/ *v* [T] **1** [(**from, to**)] to cause to turn aside or change from one use or direction to another: *They diverted the river to supply water to the town.* | *diverted traffic* | *to divert additional government resources to the inner cities* **2** [(**from**)] to turn (a person, attention, criticism, etc.) away from something; DISTRACT: *The outbreak of fighting in the North has diverted public attention away from other national problems.* **3** *fml* to amuse: *a new game to divert the children* | *a diverting game*

di·vest /daɪˈvest, dɨ-/ *v*

divest sbdy. **of** sthg. *phr v* [T] *fml* **1** to take away (the official position, special rights, property, etc.) of: *They divested the king of all his power.* **2** to take off (the ceremonial clothes) of **3** to cause (oneself) to get rid of (esp. business operations or false ideas): *The American conglomerate GIO is to divest itself of its oil interests.* | *to divest oneself of pride*

di·vest·ment /daɪˈvestmənt/ also **di·ves·ti·ture** /daɪˈvestɨtʃəʳ‖-tʃʊəʳ/– *n* [U] *AmE for* DISINVESTMENT

di·vide[1] /dɨˈvaɪd/ *v* **1** [I;T (**into, from, between**)] to separate into two or more parts or groups: *The class divided into three groups when we went on our outing.* | *Divide this line into 20 equal parts.* | *Divide it in half.* | *The country is divided into 12 provinces.* | *A low wall divides our garden from our neighbour's garden.* | *He divides his time between working and looking after the children.* **2** [T (UP, **between, among, with**)] to separate and give out or share: *The prize money will be divided up|will be equally divided between|among the three winners.* | *Divide the cake with your sister.* **3** [I;T (**by, into**)] to find out how many times one number contains or is contained in another number: *Divide 15 by 3* | *15 divided by 3 is 5.* | *3 divides into 15 5 times.* –compare MULTIPLY **4** [T] to be an important cause of disagreement between; separate into opposing groups: *The issue of education policy divided the party.* | *The opposition groups are hopelessly divided.* | *a clear* **dividing line** *between those for and those against the motion* **5** [I] *tech* to vote by separating into groups: *Parliament divided on the question, and the Government won narrowly.*

divide[2] *n* **1** [(**between**)] *fml* a difference; lack of sameness or UNITY: *the divide between two political systems* | *the North-South divide* **2** *tech* a line of high land that comes between two different river systems; WATERSHED –see CONTINENTAL DIVIDE **3** *euph* **the great divide a** death (from separating the dead from the living): *He has crossed the great divide.* **b** the most important difference: *The great divide between the upper and lower town is the quality of the shops.*

divided high·way /ˌ·ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n AmE for* DUAL CARRIAGEWAY

div·i·dend /ˈdɪvɨdənd, -dend/ *n* **1** that part of the money made by a business, which is divided among those who own shares in the business, usu. twice a year: *The company declared a large dividend at the end of the year.* **2** *tech* a number to be divided by another number –compare DIVISOR **3 pay dividends** to produce an advantage, esp. as a result of earlier action: *Their decision five years ago to computerize the company is now paying (handsome) dividends.*

di·vid·er /dɪˈvaɪdəʳ/ *n* a stiff card that sticks out and is used to separate two sets of pages in a FILE

di·vid·ers /dɨˈvaɪdəz‖-ərz/ *n* [P] an instrument for measuring or marking off lines, angles, etc. –see PAIR (USAGE), and see picture at MATHEMATICS

div·i·na·tion /ˌdɪvɨˈneɪʃən/ *n* [U] the act or skill of telling the unknown or the future, usu. by reading certain events as signs from God

di·vine[1] /dɨˈvaɪn/ *adj* **1** [*no comp.*] of, connected with or being God or a god: *divine worship* | *to attend* **divine service** (=an act of worship in church) **2** *infml old-fash* (used esp. by women) extremely good; WONDERFUL: *The meal was simply divine!* –~**ly** *adv*

divine[2] *v* **1** [T] *fml or lit* to discover or guess (something unknown) by or as if by magic: [+*obj*|*wh-*] *At last I divined the truth|divined what she meant.* **2** [I (**for**);T] also **dowse**– to (try to) find underground water or minerals with a special Y-shaped stick (**divining rod|dowsing rod**) that is believed to point towards them. People who do this claim that it works, but many other people do not believe it because it cannot be tested or proved scientifically: *He divined (for) water on my farm.*

divine[3] *n now rare* a priest, esp. of the Christian religion

Divine Com·e·dy /ˌ·ˌ· ˈ···/ [*the*] a poem written by Dante at the beginning of the 14th century telling of his SYMBOLIC journey to God through Hell (the **Inferno**), Purgatory, and Paradise, with Beatrice the woman he loves and who saves him –see also DANTE

Divine Of·fice /ˌ·ˌ· ˈ··/ [*the*] the fixed forms of prayer and ceremony for daily worship used by Roman Catholic priests

di·vin·er /dɨˈvaɪnəʳ/ also **dowser** *n* a person who divines for underground water or minerals

divine right /ˌ·ˌ· ˈ·/ also **divine right of kings** /ˌ·ˌ· ˌ· · ˈ·/ *n* [S;U] the idea that a king receives his right to rule directly from God and not from the people: *the divine right of kings* | (fig.) *You seem to think you have a divine right to open my mail.*

diving bell /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a bell-shaped metal container in which people can work under water

div·ing·board /ˈdaɪvɪŋbɔːd‖-bɔːrd/ *n* a board fixed at one end, esp. high off the ground, off which people DIVE into the water –compare SPRINGBOARD

di·vin·i·ty /dɨˈvɪnɨti/ *n* **1** [U] the quality or state of being DIVINE[1] (1) **2** [C] (*often cap.*) a god or goddess **3** [U] the study of God and religious beliefs; THEOLOGY

Divinity *n* [*the*] God

divinity school /·ˈ··· ˌ·/ *n AmE for* THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

di·vis·i·ble /dɨˈvɪzɨbəl/ *adj* [(**by, into**)] that can be divided: *15 is divisible by 3.* –opposite **indivisible**

di·vi·sion /dɨˈvɪʒən/ *n* **1** [U (**between, among, into**)] separation or sharing: *the division of responsibility among the teachers* **2** [C+*sing.*|*pl. v*] one of the parts or groups into which a whole is divided: *She works in the company's export division.* | *a naval division* (=a group of ships that fight together) | *Wolverhampton Wanderers are in the 1st Division.* **3** [C (**between**)] something that divides or separates: *The river forms the division between the old and new parts of the city.* | *deep political divisions between the two groups* **4** [U (**between**)] disagreement between the members of a group; DISSENSION **5** [U] the process of finding out how many times one number or quantity is contained in another: *The children are learning to do division.* | **division sign** (÷) –compare MULTIPLICATION; see also LONG DIVISION **6** [C] *tech* a vote in the British parliament in which all those in favour ('aye') go to one place and all those against ('no') go to another:

to force a division | *the* **division bell** (=bell rung to tell members there will be a division)

division lob·by /ˌ···ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* (in Britain) either of the two places to which a Member of Parliament goes to vote for or against something in a DIVISION (6)

division of la·bour /ˌ···ˌ·· · ˈ··/ *n* [(*the*) U] a system in which each member of a group specializes in a different type of work

di·vi·sive /dɪˈvaɪsɪv/ *adj* tending to make people argue amongst themselves; causing DISUNITY: *a divisive policy|issue* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

di·vi·sor /dɪˈvaɪzəʳ/ *n tech* the number by which another number is divided: *When 15 is divided by 3, the number 3 is the divisor.* —compare DIVIDEND (2)

di·vorce[1] /dɪˈvɔːs‖-ɔːrs/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a case of) the official ending of a marriage, esp. as declared by a court of law: *Their marriage ended in divorce.* | *She wants to get a divorce.* | *an increase in the number of divorces*

►CULTURAL NOTE Divorce is legal in Britain, though not in Ireland, and can be given for an IRRETRIEVABLE BREAKDOWN (=failure) of a marriage. This can be caused by ADULTERY, cruelty, or DESERTION and since 1969, when the Divorce Reform Act took effect, by two years separation. In the US divorce is also legal, though different states may have different laws about it. In most states one may get a divorce for the same reasons as in Britain, usually after at least one year's separation, and in some states one can get a NO-FAULT divorce (=one that does not blame either person). In both Britain and the US, the court decides which parent should have CUSTODY of the children, how the property is to be divided, and whether one partner, usu. the husband, should pay money (*BrE* MAINTENANCE *AmE* CHILD SUPPORT or ALIMONY) towards the living costs of the other and/or children —compare SEPARATION◄

2 [C (**between**)] a separation: *a growing divorce between workers and management*

divorce[2] *v* **1** [I;T] to officially end a marriage between/to (a husband and wife): *They're getting divorced.* | *She divorced him after years of unhappiness.* | *a divorced woman* **2** [T (**from**)] to separate completely: *It is difficult to divorce politics from sport.* | *Some of his ideas are completely divorced from reality.*

▷USAGE If Tom and Jill are married but intend to end their marriage we can say *Tom and Jill are getting* **divorced.** If we are talking mainly about Jill we can say *Jill is getting a* **divorce**|*getting* **divorced (from** *Tom).* But if Jill is taking action in law against Tom to end the marriage we can say *Jill is* **divorcing** *Tom.* —see also MARRY (USAGE)◁

di·vor·cée /dɪˈvɔːsiː‖dɪˌvɔːrˈseɪ, -ˈsiː/ **di·vor·cé** /dɪˈvɔːsiː, -seɪ‖-ɔːr-/ *masc.*— *n old fash* a woman whose marriage has ended in divorce —compare WIDOW

di·vulge /daɪˈvʌldʒ, dɪ-/ *v* [T (**to**)] *fml* to tell or make known (what has been secret); REVEAL: *Who divulged our plans (to the press)?* [+*that*] *The doctor divulged that the President had been ill for some time before he died.* [+*wh-*] *They refused to divulge where they had hidden the money.* —**-vulgence** *n* [U]

div·vy /ˈdɪvi/ *v* [T (UP)] *sl* to divide: *a conspiracy to divvy up the market between them*

Di·wa·li, Dewali, Divali /dɪˈwɑːli/ an important HINDU religious celebration held in October or November marked by special food, gifts, and the lighting of lamps

Dix·ie /ˈdɪksi/ *AmE infml* **1** the Southern states of the US, esp. the south-eastern states where slaves were owned before the war between the States (the Civil War). There is a well-known popular song called *Dixie* written in 1859 by Daniel D Emmett.

dix·ie·land /ˈdɪksilænd/ *n* [U] old-style (TRADITIONAL) JAZZ played with a two-beat RHYTHM by a small band and often including a part played by just one instrument, originally from the southern states of the US

Dix·on of Dock Green /ˌdɪksən əv ˌdɒk ˈgriːn‖-ˌdɑːk-/ *n* a former long-running British television programme in which Sergeant Dixon was a London policeman, played by Jack Warner, at the Dock Green police station. Each programme began with Sergeant Dixon saying "evenin' all". For many people, Sergeant Dixon is the typical British "friendly bobby" (=friendly policeman), always ready to help people and always completely honest. People sometimes mention him when saying that modern policemen are not always like him: *For people who have grown up with the Dixon of Dock Green image of the police, these allegations of police brutality and dishonesty will have come as quite a shock.*

Dix·ons /ˈdɪksənz/ (in Britain) one of a group of shops which sell electrical, electronic, and photographic equipment

DIY /ˌdiː aɪ ˈwaɪ/ *n* [U] *esp. BrE, abbrev. for*: do-it-yourself; the practice of doing repairs, painting the house, etc. oneself, instead of paying workmen: *a DIY shop* | *a DIY fanatic*

►CULTURAL NOTE DIY is a very popular free time activity in Britain. Special shops, such as B & Q and Payless, sell everything needed for DIY.◄

diz·zy /ˈdɪzi/ *adj* **1** having an unpleasant feeling of loss of balance and confusion, as if things are going round and round: *They danced round in circles until they were dizzy.* | *Climbing ladders makes me dizzy.* **2** [A] causing this feeling: *looking down from a* **dizzy height** | (fig.) *She rose to the dizzy height* (=important position) *of vice-president.* **3** *infml, esp. AmE* careless and forgetful: *A dizzy blonde works at the front desk.* —**-zily** *adv* —**-ziness** *n* [U]

DJ /ˌdiː ˈdʒeɪ◂/ *n abbrev.* **1** *for*: DISC JOCKEY **2** *for*: DINNER JACKET

Dja·kar·ta /dʒəˈkɑːtə‖-ɑːr-/ see JAKARTA

Dji·bou·ti /dʒɪˈbuːti/ a country in NE Africa, formerly a French COLONY; capital Djibouti; population 510,000 (1989)

djinn /dʒɪn/ *n* a GENIE

DMV /ˌdiː em ˈviː/ [*the*] the Department of Motor Vehicles; in many US states, the government department for taxing and licensing (LICENSE) drivers, cars, and other vehicles

DNA /ˌdiː en ˈeɪ◂/ *n* [U] *tech* deoxyribonucleic acid; the acid which carries GENETIC information in a cell

DNA pro·fil·ing /ˌ··· ˈ···/ *n* [U] the practice of using information from DNA in blood, SEMEN, or other body liquids found at the scene of a crime to discover who the criminal is **DNA profile** *n*

DNB /ˌdiː en ˈbiː/ the DICTIONARY OF NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY

D-no·tice /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* (in Britain) an official request to a newspaper that certain information shall not be made public, for reasons of national safety

do[1] /duː/ *v* **did** /dɪd/, **done** /dʌn/; *3rd person sing. present* **does** /dəz; *strong* dʌz/ [*auxiliary verb*] **1** [+~~*to*~~-*v*] **a** (used with another verb, esp. to form questions or negatives): *Do you like my new car?* | *He didn't answer.* | *Where do you live?* | *Doesn't he look funny?* | *Don't just stand there watching!* | (*esp. BrE*) *Don't let's stop.* (compare *Let's not stop.*) | *Why don't you come for the weekend?* (=Please come!) | *Not only did I see him, but I spoke to him.* | *Little does he know* (=he is unconscious of the fact) *that the police are watching him.* **b** (used to strengthen or support another verb): *Do be careful!* | *"Why didn't you tell me?" "I did tell you."* | *He owns, or did own, a Rolls Royce.* — see NOT(USAGE) **2** [I] (used instead of another verb): *She likes it, and so do I.* | *"Would you like to join us?" "I don't mind if I do."* (=yes please) | *He speaks English better than he did.* (=better than he used to speak it) | *"You stepped on my toe." "No, I didn't!"* | *She writes novels, doesn't she?* (=I think she writes novels.) | (*esp. BrE*) *She writes novels, does she?* (=I am asking) | *"You left the door open." "So I did!"* (=you are right) | (*fml*) *"Will you write to her?" "I have already done so."* | (*BrE*) *"Will she come?" "She may do."* | *"You ought to phone your mother." "I already have done."* **3** [T] (used instead of another verb): *"What are you doing?" "I'm cooking."* | *What he does is (to) teach.* **4 What . . . doing** (often expressing disapproval) Why?: *What is that book doing on the floor?* (=Why is it there?) | *What was that man doing in your room?*

do[2] *v* **1** [T] to perform the actions that are necessary in order to complete (something) or bring it into a desired state: *to do a sum|a crossword|one's homework|exercises* | *I'll do the cooking|the cleaning.* | *Have you done* (=cleaned) *your teeth?* | *to do one's hair* (=arrange it) | *They do fish* (=cook it) *very well in this restaurant.* | *to*

do repairs | *to do* (=study) *science at school* | *This car can do 80 miles an hour.* | *It's a pleasure to do business with you.* | *We did everything we could to help him.* | *Don't do anything stupid.* | *We* **did our best** *to help him.* | *There's nothing more to do|to be done.* | *What do you do (for a living)?* (=What is your work?) | *All we can do now is wait.* —see MAKE (USAGE) **2** [T] (used in certain expressions): *He's only* **doing his duty**. | *You* **did right** *to tell me what they were doing.* [+*obj(i)*+*obj(d)*] *That won't* **do (you) any harm.** | *The medicine will* **do you good**. | *The photograph doesn't* **do her justice**. | *Will you* **do me a favour?** | *Will you* **do us the honour** *of coming to dinner?* **3** [I+**well, badly,** etc.] to advance or perform successfully or unsuccessfully; PROGRESS: *The children are doing well at their new school.* | *I hope you'll do better in future.* | *The company always does badly at this time of year.* | *How are you doing in the new job?* **4** [*not in progressive forms*] **a** [I (**for**)] to be enough or suitable: *Will £5 do?* | *That'll do nicely.* | *This little bed will do for the baby.* | *You needn't use milk – water will do.* | *That will do! Stop!* **b** [T] to be enough or suitable for (someone): *Will £5 do you?* | *I suppose this coat will have to do me for another year.* **5** [I+*adv|prep*] to behave in a stated way: *Do as you're told!* | *You did well to get here so quickly.* **6** [T] *infml, esp. BrE* (of people) **a** to cheat: *I'm afraid he's done you on that sale! You've been done!* **b** to punish; hurt: *If you say that again, I'll do you!* **7** [T] *infml* to visit (a place) and see everything interesting in it: *Can we do Oxford in three days?* **8** [T] to perform as or copy the manner of; IMPERSONATE: *He does Ronald Reagan very well.* **9** [I *only in progressive forms*] *infml* to happen: *What's doing at your place tonight?* | *There's nothing doing in this town at night.* **10 do or die** *fml* to succeed or die; do everything possible to succeed **11 do time** *infml* to be in prison **12 do to death** to kill: (fig.) *That joke has been done to death by being repeated so often.* **13 I do** the answer to a question in the marriage service "Do you take this woman/man to be your lawful wedded wife/husband?", by which one agrees formally to be married: *She couldn't wait to walk up the aisle and say "I do".* **14 do well by** to treat well **15** *BrE* **up and doing** *infml* out of bed and active: *He's up and doing by five o'clock in the morning!* —see also **do one's bit** (BIT[1]), **how do you do** (HOW), **nothing doing** (NOTHING), **do (someone) proud** (PROUD)

do away with sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** to cause to end; ABOLISH: *The government did away with free school meals.* **2** also **make away with**– *infml* to kill or murder (someone or oneself)

do sbdy. ↔ **down** *phr v* [T] *BrE infml* **1** to cheat **2** to try to make someone, esp. someone who is not present, seem unimportant, worthless, etc.

do for sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** *BrE infml* to keep house or do cleaning for **2** *BrE sl* to kill; murder **3 What will you do for (something)?** What arrangements will you make for (something)?: *What will you do for food when you are camping?* —see also **done for** (DONE[2])

do in *phr v* [T] **1** (**do** sbdy. ↔ **in**) *sl* to kill: *They did her in with an axe!* **2** (**do** sbdy. **in**) *infml* to tire completely: *That long walk really did me in!*

do sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] *infml, esp. BrE* to clean thoroughly: *I'll do out the living room.*

do sbdy. **out of** sthg. *phr v* [T *often pass.*] *infml* to cause to lose by cheating: *I've been done out of my rights.*

do over *phr v* [T] **1** (**do** sthg. ↔ **over**) to repaint (a room, wall, etc.) **2** (**do** sthg. **over**) *AmE* to do or make again: *Your work is full of mistakes; you'd better do it over.* **3** (**do** sbdy. ↔ **over**) *BrE sl* to attack and wound

do up *phr v* **1** [I;T (≠**do** sthg. ↔ **up**)] to fasten or tie: *Do up your buttons|my dress|this knot.* | *This skirt does up at the back.* —see OPEN (USAGE) **2** [T] (**do** sthg. ↔ **up**) to repair or redecorate: *They did up an old house and sold it for a big profit.* **3** [T] (**do** sbdy. **up**) to make (oneself) more beautiful: *Mary has done herself up for the party.*

do with sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** [*no pass.*] (usu. after **could**) to need or want: *I could do with a cup of tea.* | *This room could do with a good clean.* **2** [*no pass.*] *BrE infml (with negatives)* to allow; accept or experience willingly: *I can't do with|I can't be doing with all this loud music.* **3** [*no pass.*] to cause (oneself) to spend time doing: *The boys didn't know what to do with themselves when school ended.* **4** (in questions with **what**) to take action with regard to: *"What have you done with my pen?" "I've put it away."* | *"What shall we do with the children?" "Take them out to the park."* **5 have|be to do with** to have a connection with: *Her job has|is to do with telephones.* **6 have|be something|nothing|anything|a lot, etc., to do with** to have some|no|any|a lot of, etc., connection with: *Her job has nothing to do with telephones.* | *Don't have anything to do with him – he's completely untrustworthy.* | *What he does at home is nothing to do with* (=does not concern) *his teacher.* **7 What is someone doing with..?** Why has someone got (something): *What were you doing with my diary just now?* —see also DONE[2] (1)

▷ USAGE Compare **do with** and **do to.** *What have you* **done with** *my book?* means "Where is it?" but *What have you* **done to** *my book?* suggests that you have damaged it.◁

do without (sbdy./sthg.) *phr v* [I;T] to manage to live or continue satisfactorily without: *I haven't enough money to buy a car, so I'll just have to do without (one).* | (shows annoyance) *I can do without* (=would rather not have) *your sarcastic comments, thank you!*

do[3] *n* **dos** *or* **do's** /duːz/ *infml* **1** *esp. BrE* a big party: *After the wedding there was a big do at the Savoy.* **2 dos and don'ts** rules of behaviour: *the dos and don'ts of working in an office*

do[4]**, doh** /dəʊ/ *n* [S;U] the first or eighth note in the SOL-FA musical scale

DOA /ˌdiː əʊ ˈeɪ/ *adj* [F] *abbrev. for:* dead on arrival, usu. used in hospitals

d.o.b. /ˌdiː əʊ ˈbiː/ *n abbrev. for:* date of birth

Dob·bin /ˈdɒbɨn‖ˈdɑː-/ a popular name esp. in Britain for a farm horse or a quiet, slow horse

Do·ber·mann pin·scher /ˌdəʊbəmən ˈpɪnʃəʳ‖-bər-/ *n* a middle-sized fierce-looking dog of German origin, often used as a guard dog —see picture at DOG

doc /dɒk‖dɑːk/ *n infml* a doctor: *Good morning, doc!*

do·cent /dəʊˈsent/ *n AmE* a person, often unpaid, who guides others through MUSEUMS, parks, and other attractions

do·cile /ˈdəʊsaɪl‖ˈdɑːsəl/ *adj* quiet and easily controlled, managed, or influenced; SUBMISSIVE: *a docile child|horse* **–-cility** /dəʊˈsɪlɨti‖dɑː-/ *n* [U]

dock[1] /dɒk‖dɑːk/ *n* **1** [C] a place where ships are loaded and unloaded, or repaired: *the docks of London* —see also DRY DOCK **2** [*the*+S] the place in a court of law where the prisoner stands —see colour picture on page 751 **3 in dock** *BrE* away being repaired: *My car's in dock this week.*

dock[2] *v* [I;T (**at**)] to (cause to) sail into, or remain at, a dock: *The ship docked at Portsmouth.* | *We'll be docking in about half an hour.*

dock[3] *v* [T] **1** to cut off the end of; cut short: *docking a horse's tail* **2** to take away (esp. money) from (something else, esp. wages): *If you're late for work again your wages will be docked.* | *to dock £5 from someone's wages*

dock[4] *n* [C;U] a common plant with broad leaves (**dock leaves**) that grows by the roadside in Britain and other northern countries. Many people use dock leaves to rub on their skin if they get stung by a NETTLE

dock·er /ˈdɒkəʳ‖ˈdɑː-/ also **longshoreman** *AmE*– *n* a person who works at a dock, loading and unloading ships

dock·et[1] /ˈdɒkɨt‖ˈdɑː-/ *n* **1** *fml or tech, esp. BrE* a list or piece of paper describing the contents of something, giving information about its use, etc. **2** *AmE law* **a** list stating the causes for a trial in court **b** a list of cases that are to come before a particular court

docket[2] *v* [T] *fml or tech, esp. BrE* to describe in a docket: *to docket a parcel of goods*

Dock Green see DIXON OF DOCK GREEN

dock·land /ˈdɒkləndˌ -lænd‖ˈdɑːk-/ also **docklands** *pl.*– *n* [U] the area around the docks in a large port: *London's dockland by the Thames* | *dockland development*

Dock·lands /ˈdɒkləndz‖ˈdɑːk-/ a new development of houses and offices in E London, along the river Thames, formerly a poor area. It includes the Canary Wharf tower, also known as the DS. Tower, which is the tallest building in Europe. **The Docklands Light Railway** connects the area to the City of London, and there is a Docklands airport. Docklands is thought of as representing the new society which the Conservative government of

the 1980s wanted to build. However, it has also been criticized for encouraging rich people, esp. YUPPIES, to move into the area and forcing local people to leave because the houses are too expensive for them.

dock·side /ˈdɒksaɪd‖ˈdɑːk-/ *n* [*the*] the area beside a dock: *goods delivered to the dockside*

dock·yard /ˈdɒkjɑːd‖ˈdɑːkjɑːrd/ *n* a place where ships are built or repaired; SHIPYARD

Doc Mar·tens /ˌdɒk ˈmɑːtn̩z‖ˌdɑːk ˈmɑːrtnz/ *n* [P] *tdmk* see DR MARTENS

doctor



doc·tor[1] /ˈdɒktəʳ‖ˈdɑːk-/ *n* **1** a person whose profession is to attend to and treat sick people: *She wants to be a doctor when she leaves school.* | *You should see|consult a doctor about your earache.* | *Doctor Smith will see you now.* | *Good morning, doctor.* | *You'd better go to the doctor|to the doctor's about your toe.* —see also FLYING DOCTOR **2** a person holding one of the highest degrees given by a university, such as a PHD **3** *AmE* (used when speaking to or about a DENTIST): *My dentist is called Doctor Steen.* **4** *infml* a person whose job is to repair the stated thing: *a radio|bicycle doctor* **5 Is there a doctor in the house?** a phrase which theatre managers are supposed to use if a member of the public is taken ill in the theatre and needs a doctor **6 under the doctor (for)** *BrE infml* being treated by a doctor (for) —see FATHER (USAGE)

▷ USAGE In Britain, medical doctors are called **doctor** but SURGEONS and DENTISTS are called Mr, Miss, Mrs, or Ms followed by their family name. In the US, dentists, medical doctors, and surgeons are called doctor. In both countries holders of a PhD are entitled to be called doctor but rarely use the title outside universities. The title is usu. written **Dr.**◁

doctor[2] *v* [T] *infml* **1** *derog* to change, esp. in a dishonest way: *They were charged with doctoring the election results.* | *It was discovered that the accounts had been doctored.* **2** *euph, esp. BrE* to make (esp. an animal) unable to breed by removing its sex organs; NEUTER[2]: *The cat has been doctored.* **3** *rare* to give medical treatment to

doc·tor·al /ˈdɒktərəl‖ˈdɑːk-/ *adj* [A] of or related to the university degree of DOCTOR[1] (2): *a doctoral degree|thesis*

doc·tor·ate /ˈdɒktərɪ̈t‖ˈdɑːk-/ *n* the university degree of a DOCTOR[1] (2)

Doctor of Phi·los·o·phy /ˌ·· · ·ˈ···/ *n fml for* PHD

Dr. Ruth Westheimer



Doctor Ruth /ˌdɒktə ˈruːθ‖ˌdɑːktər-/ (1928–) an American SEXOLOGIST (=a person who studies and works in the field of sex) who is well-known for speaking openly about sex on radio and television

Doctor Zhivago *n* a book by Boris Pasternak set in Russia during the First World War. In 1966 it was made into a sucessful film with Omar Sharif and Julie Christie.

doc·tri·naire /ˌdɒktrɪ̈ˈneəʳ‖ˌdɑːk-/ *adj derog* believing in, or trying to put into action, a system of ideas without considering the practical difficulties: *a doctrinaire socialist*

doc·trine /ˈdɒktrɪ̈n‖ˈdɑːk-/ *n* [C;U] a principle or set of principles (esp. of a religious or political kind) that is taught: *religious doctrine* | *the doctrines of the Catholic Church* [+*that*] *They still cling to the doctrine that high wages cause unemployment.* —see also INDOCTRINATE —**-trinal** /dɒkˈtraɪnəl‖ˈdɑːktrɪ̈nəl/ *adj* : *doctrinal differences between two churches*

doc·u·dra·ma /ˈdɒkjuˌdrɑːmə‖ˈdɑːkjʊˌdrɑːmə, -dræmə/ *n AmE* a film, usually for television, which presents a true story as a play

doc·u·ment[1] /ˈdɒkjʊ̈mənt‖ˈdɑːk-/ *n* a paper that provides information, esp. of an official kind: *Let me see all the legal documents concerning the sale of this land.* | *top-secret military documents*

document[2] /ˈdɒkjʊ̈ment‖ˈdɑːk-/ *v* [T] to prove or record with documents: *The history of this area is very well documented.*

doc·u·men·ta·ry[1] /ˌdɒkjʊ̈ˈmentəri‖ˌdɑːk-/ *adj* [A] **1** related to or consisting of documents: *documentary proof|evidence* **2** providing facts and information, rather than telling a story: *documentary films* —compare FEATURE FILM

documentary[2] *n* [(**on, about**)] a film or television or radio broadcast that presents facts: *We watched a documentary about gold miners in South Africa.* —compare FEATURE FILM

doc·u·men·ta·tion /ˌdɒkjʊ̈mənˈteɪʃən, -men-‖ˌdɑːk-/ *n* [U] proof in the form of documents: *Their claim to own the land is not supported by proper documentation.*

DOD /ˌdiː əʊ ˈdiː/ *abbrev. for* the US Department of Defense

Dodd /dɒd ‖ dɑːd/, **Ken** (1927–) an English COMEDIAN from Liverpool who created the DIDDYMEN and is known for his **tickling stick**, a special stick for tickling (TICKLE) people

dod·der /ˈdɒdəʳ‖ˈdɑː-/ *v* [I] *infml* (of a person) to behave or walk weakly and shakily, usu. from age —~**er** *n*

dod·der·ing /ˈdɒdərɪŋ‖ˈdɑː-/ also **dod·der·y** /-dəri/— *adj infml* (of a person) weak, shaky, and slow, usu. from age —~**ly** *adv*

dod·dle /ˈdɒdl‖ˈdɑːdl/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] *BrE infml* something that is very easy: *That driving test was a real doddle.*

dodge[1] /dɒdʒ‖dɑːdʒ/ *v* **1** [I;T] to avoid (something) by moving suddenly aside: *He dodged the falling rock and escaped unhurt.* | *She dodged past me.* **2** [T] *infml* to avoid (a responsibility, duty, etc.) by a trick or in some dishonest way; EVADE: *She somehow managed to dodge all the difficult questions.* —**dodger** *n* : *a tax dodger* —see also DRAFT DODGER

dodge[2] *n infml* a clever way of avoiding something or of deceiving or tricking someone: *a tax dodge*

Dodge *tdmk* an American car made by Chrysler: *He drives a Dodge Dart.*

dodge·ball /ˈdɒdʒbɔːl‖ˈdɑːdʒ-/ *n* [U] a game played by American children in which the object is to avoid being hit by a large rubber ball thrown by the opposing players

Dodge Cit·y /ˌ· ˈ··/ a city in Kansas in the US

►CULTURAL NOTE In the 19th century Dodge City was a place where many people came to drink and play cards. People did not obey the law, and there were often shootings on the street: *Nobody wants to live in some kind of Dodge City with bullets flying all over the place.*◄

dodg·ems /ˈdɒdʒəmz‖ˈdɑː-/ also **bumper cars** *n* [*the*+P] *infml* a form of entertainment at FUNFAIRS or other places of public amusement in which people try to drive small electric cars (**dodgem cars**) in an enclosed space, often intentionally hitting other cars

dodg·y /ˈdɒdʒi‖ˈdɑː-/ *adj infml, esp. BrE* **1** not safe; risky; dangerous: *a dodgy plan* | *Don't sit on that chair. It's a bit dodgy.* **2** dishonest and not to be trusted: *a dodgy person|business*

do·do /ˈdəʊdəʊ/ *n* **dodos** *or* **dodoes** **1** a large bird that could not fly and that no longer exists: (fig.) *Fashions change fast, and this year's winner may be a dodo next year.* **2 (as) dead as a dodo** *infml* completely dead or forgotten about **3** *AmE* a stupid person

DOE /ˌdiː əʊ ˈiː/ [*the*] **1** *abbrev. for*: DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT **2** *for*: Department of Energy, an American government department

doe /dəʊ/ *n* the female of certain animals, esp. the deer, the rabbit, and the rat —compare BUCK[1] (1)

do·er /ˈduːəʳ/ *n infml* a person who does things or is active: *an evil-doer* | *She's a doer, not just a thinker.*

does /dəz; *strong* dʌz/ *3rd person singular present of* DO[1,2] —see NOT (USAGE)

does·n't /ˈdʌzənt/ *short for:* does not: *It doesn't matter.* | *Doesn't he live in the house next to yours?*

doff /dɒf‖dɑːf, dɔːf/ *v* [T] *old use or pomp* to take off (esp. one's hat): *He doffed his cap to the old lady.* —opposite **don**

dogs


poodle


pekinese


dachshund


spaniel


collie


greyhound


Alsatian esp. *BrE*/ German shepherd esp. *AmE*


Afghan


Labrador


Dalmatian


Dobermann pinscher


Old English sheepdog


pit bull terrier


Yorkshire terrier


rottweiler


Jack Russell

dog[1] /dɒg‖dɔːg/ *n* **1** a common four-legged animal, esp. any of the many varieties kept by humans as companions or for hunting, working, guarding, etc. A young dog is called a **puppy**: *a guard dog | Our dog's a mongrel. | I could hear the neighbours' dog barking.*

►CULTURAL NOTE Dogs are very popular and very common in Britain and the US. They are treated as members of the family, and esp. in Britain are paid a great deal of attention. In Britain, there are often stories about dogs in the newspapers. People sometimes talk about dogs as **man's best friend**. However, worry is growing about the health risk from dogs' EXCREMENT in towns, and about people keeping fierce dogs that can injure or kill people.◄

2 a male dog or the male of certain animals like it, esp. the fox and the WOLF —see also BITCH[1] **3** *infml* a person of the stated kind: *He's a dirty dog. | You lucky dog!* **4** *AmE sl* **a** a failure or a disappointment: *The party was a real dog.* **b** a very unattractive woman (This would be very offensive to any woman who heard it, and would usu. only be used by a man to other men.) **5 a dog in the manger** someone who does not want others to use or enjoy something even though they themselves do not need or want it **6 dog eat dog** a hard struggle to continue to exist, with people competing fiercely against each other: *It's dog eat dog in the business world.* **7 dressed up like a dog's dinner** *BrE infml* dressed in fine clothes which one thinks very splendid, but which other people consider rather silly **8 every dog has its day** *saying* every person, no matter how unpleasant they are, has their period of success **9 let sleeping dogs lie** *infml* not to interrupt or trouble a person, situation, etc. when this is likely to cause problems or disorder **10 not have a 'dog's chance** *infml* to have no chance at all **11 put on the dog** *AmE infml* to pretend to be more wealthy or knowledgeable than one really is: *He was really putting on the dog to try to impress her.* **12 treat someone like a dog** *infml* to treat someone very badly —see also DOGS, HOT DOG, TOP DOG **13 you can't teach an old dog new tricks** *saying* someone who is old and fixed in their ways cannot learn new ideas or new ways of doing things —see also **(a case of) the tail wagging the dog** (TAIL)

dog[2] *v* **-gg-** [T *often pass.*] (esp. of problems, difficulties, etc.) to follow closely like a dog; PURSUE: *We were dogged by bad luck throughout the journey.*

dog bis·cuit /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a small dry hard piece of baked bread-like food for dogs

dog·cart /ˈdɒgkɑːt‖ˈdɔːgkɑːrt/ *n* **1** a two-wheeled vehicle, pulled by a horse, with two seats across the vehicle, back to back **2** a small cart to be pulled by a large dog

dog·catch·er /ˈdɒgˌkætʃəʳ‖ˈdɔːg-/ *n* an official of a town whose duty it is to catch wandering dogs and take them off the streets

dog col·lar /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* **1** a neckband for a dog, onto which a LEAD[2] (4) can be fastened **2** *infml* a priest's round white collar, stiff and fastened at the back

dog days /ˈ· ·/ *n* [(*the*) P] *(often caps.) esp. lit* the hottest days of the year: *the dog days of summer*

doge /dəʊdʒ/ *n* the highest government official in Venice and in Genoa in former times

dog-eared /ˈ· ·/ *adj* (esp. of books and papers) having the corners of the pages bent down with use

dog-end /ˈ· ·/ *n infml, esp. BrE* **1** a cigarette end **2** something left over and not considered of value

dog·fight /ˈdɒgfaɪt‖ˈdɔːg-/ *n* **1** a fight between dogs, or any cruel uncontrolled fight without proper rules **2** a fight between armed aircraft

dog·fish /ˈdɒgˌfɪʃ‖ˈdɔːg-/ *n* a kind of small SHARK

dog·ged /ˈdɒgɨd‖ˈdɔː-/ *adj* (of a person or their behaviour) refusing to give up in the face of difficulty or opposition; TENACIOUS: *dogged perseverance* — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

Dog·ger Bank /ˌdɒgə ˈbæŋk‖ˌdɔːgər-/ an area in the North Sea off the Yorkshire coast, known for its fishing ground

dog·ge·rel /ˈdɒgərəl‖ˈdɔː-, ˈdɑː-/ *n* [U] silly and worthless poetry that is often not intended to be serious

dog·go /ˈdɒgəʊ‖ˈdɔː-/ *adv* **lie doggo** *old-fash sl* to lie or hide quietly without moving or making a noise; remain in hiding

dog·gone /ˈdɒgɒn‖ˈdɔːgɔːn/ *v* [T] *AmE euph sl* DAMN[4]: *Doggone it, I've lost again!* —**doggone, -goned** *adj* [A] : *That doggoned cat has upset the milk!*

dog·gy , doggie /ˈdɒgi‖ˈdɔːgi/ *n* (used esp. to or by children) a dog

doggy bag, doggie bag /ˈ·· ·/ *n esp. AmE* a small bag provided by a restaurant for taking home food that remains uneaten after a meal. The amount of food provided in restaurants is usu. much greater in the US than in Britain, and it is considered quite acceptable to take some of it home.

dog·house /ˈdɒghaʊs‖ˈdɔːg-/ *n* **in the doghouse** *infml* in a state of disfavour or shame

do·gie /ˈdəʊgi/ *n AmE* a motherless CALF (=baby cow) in a group of cattle

dog·leg /ˈdɒgleg‖ˈdɔːg-/ *n* a sharp bend in a road, a racetrack, or esp. part of a GOLF course

dog·ma /ˈdɒgmə‖ˈdɔːgmə, ˈdɑːgmə/ *n* [C;U] *often derog* an important belief or set of beliefs that people are expected to accept without reasoning: *Catholic dogma | Marxist dogma*

dog·mat·ic /dɒgˈmætɪk‖dɔːg-, dɑːg-/ *adj usu. derog* holding one's beliefs very strongly and expecting other people to accept them without question: *a dogmatic person/manner. | He's very dogmatic about the right way to bring up children.* — **~ally** /kli/ *adv*

dog·ma·tis·m /ˈdɒgmətɪzəm‖ˈdɔːg-, ˈdɑːg-/ *n* [U] *usu. derog* the quality of being dogmatic —**-tist** *n*

do-good·er /ˌ· ˈ··‖ˈ· ˌ··/ *n usu. derog* a person who tries to help people who have problems, but may be impractical or ineffective

dog pad·dle /ˈ· ˌ··/ also **dog·gy paddle** /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [(*the*) S] *infml* a simple swimming stroke in which the legs are kicked while the arms make short quick movements up and down in the water like the front legs of a swimming dog

dogs /dɒgz‖dɔːgz/ *n* **1** [*the*+P] a sports event at which dogs (esp. GREYHOUNDS) race and money is won or lost: *a night out at the dogs* **2** [P] *humor sl* feet: *I've walked so much*

today that my dogs are really killing me. **3** [P] also **fire-dogs, andirons** supports for burning logs in a fireplace **4 go to the dogs** to become ruined, esp. to change from a better to a worse moral condition: *"This country's going to the dogs!" said the old man.*

dogs·bod·y /ˈdɒgzˌbɒdi‖ˈdɔːgzˌbɑːdi/ *n BrE infml* a person in a low-ranking position who has to do the least interesting work: *I'm just the dogsbody in this office.*

dog's dinner /ˌ· ˈ··/ also **dog's breakfast** *n* [S] *BrE derog sl* something badly or untidily done: *I don't know who designed this course, but it's a real dog's dinner.*

dog sled /ˈ· ·/ *n* a small carriage pulled by dogs over snow, used especially in Alaska and the northern part of Canada

dog's life /ˈ· ˌ·/ *n* [S] an unhappy dull existence

dog tag /ˈ· ˌ·/ *n AmE infml* a small piece of metal on which a soldier's name, blood type, and number are written, worn round his neck

dog-tired /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *adj infml* extremely tired

dog·trot /ˈdɒgtrɒt‖ˈdɔːgtrɑːt/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] a way of moving along that is faster than walking but slower than running

dog war·den /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* (in Britain) an official worker whose job is to collect dogs which are out without their owners, and make sure that people do not take dogs into areas where they are not allowed: *I suggest that the council employ Dog Wardens to patrol the beach.*

dog·wood /ˈdɒgwʊd‖ˈdɔːg-/ *n* [C;U] a kind of flowering tree or bush from North America

doh /dəʊ/ *n* DO[4]

DOH /ˌdiː əʊ ˈeɪtʃ/ [*the*] *abbrev. for:* DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

doi·ly , doyley, doyly /ˈdɔɪli/ *n* a decorative piece of cloth or paper used under a dish or under cakes on a plate

do·ing /ˈduːɪŋ/ *n* **1** [C;U] something that one causes to happen; an act: *This must be your doing.* (=I think you did this.) **2** [U] hard work: *The job will take a lot of doing.*

do·ings /ˈduːɪŋz/ *n* **doings** *BrE infml* any small thing, esp. something whose name one has forgotten or does not know: *Put this little doings on the table.*

do-it-your·self /ˌ· · ·ˈ·/ *n* [U] see DIY — ~**er** *n* : *She's a great do-it-yourselfer.*

Dol·by /ˈdɒlbi‖ˈdɔːl-, ˈdəʊl-/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a system for reducing unwanted noise on sound recordings: *in Dolby stereo*

dol·drums /ˈdɒldrəmz‖ˈdəʊl-, ˈdɑːl-, ˈdɔːl-/ *n* [*the*+P] **1** an area on the ocean where ships cannot move because there is no wind **2 in the doldrums** *infml* **a** in an unhappy state of mind **b** in a state of inactivity: *The motor trade is really in the doldrums.*

dole[1] /dəʊl/ *n* **1** [U] money that is given by the government to poeple who are unemployed: *My dole cheque should arrive tomorrow.* **2 go/be on the dole** *BrE infml* to start to receive money from the government because one is unemployed: *I've been on the dole for six months.*

dole[2] *v*

dole sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T (**to**)] to give (esp. money or food in small shares); DISTRIBUTE: *She doled out the money.| I doled out food to all the children.*

dole·ful /ˈdəʊlfəl/ *adj* causing or expressing unhappiness or low spirits: *a doleful glance|experience* — ~**ly** *adv* — ~**ness** *n* [U]

dole queue /ˈ· ·/ *n* all the people who are unemployed: *Labour plan to invest in the public sector in order to expand the economy and shorten the dole queues.*

Do·lit·tle /ˈduːlɪtl/, **Dr** a man in children's stories who gets on well with animals and can talk their language by Hugh Lofting

doll[1] /dɒl‖dɑːl, dɔːl/ *n* **1** a small figure of a person used esp. as a child's toy. Dolls are thought of as toys for girls, but boys also play with them, esp. **action man** dolls dressed as soldiers **2** *infml usu. derog* a pretty but silly young woman who pays too much attention to her clothes and appearance **3** *sl* (may be considered offensive to women) a young girl or woman, esp. an attractive or charming one: *My granddaughter is a little doll.* **4** *AmE sl* a very nice person: *"OK, I'll lend you $20." "You're a doll, Bill!"*

doll[2] *v*

doll sbdy. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T *often pass.*] *infml* to dress (someone or oneself) prettily: *all dolled up to go to a party* | (fig.) *He dolled up the report to make it sound more impressive.*

dol·lar /ˈdɒləʳ‖ˈdɑː-/ *n* **1** [C *usu. sing.*] a standard of money, as used in the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Zimbabwe, and some other countries. It is worth 100 cents and its sign is $. **2** [C] a piece of paper, a coin, etc., of this value **3** [*the*] the value of US money in relation to the money of other countries: *the rising|falling dollar* —see also **bet one's bottom dollar** (BET[3]), **feel/look like a million dollars** (MILLION)

dollar di·plo·ma·cy /ˌ·· ·ˈ···/ *n* [U] the use of financial threats by a country to increase its political power in another country

dollars-and-cents /ˌ·· · ˈ·/ *adj AmE* considered from a practical or financial point of view: *It's an interesting idea but from a dollars-and-cents point of view it just won't work.*

dol·lop /ˈdɒləp‖ˈdɑː-/ *n* [(**of**)] *infml* **1** a shapeless mass: *a dollop of clay|mashed potato* **2** a spoonful, esp. of food

doll's house /ˈ· ˌ·/ *BrE*‖**doll·house** /ˈdɒlhaʊs‖ˈdɑːl-, ˈdɔːl-/ *AmE*— *n* **-houses** /ˌhaʊzɨz/ **1** a child's toy house in which small dolls, toy furniture, etc., can be put **2** a very small house

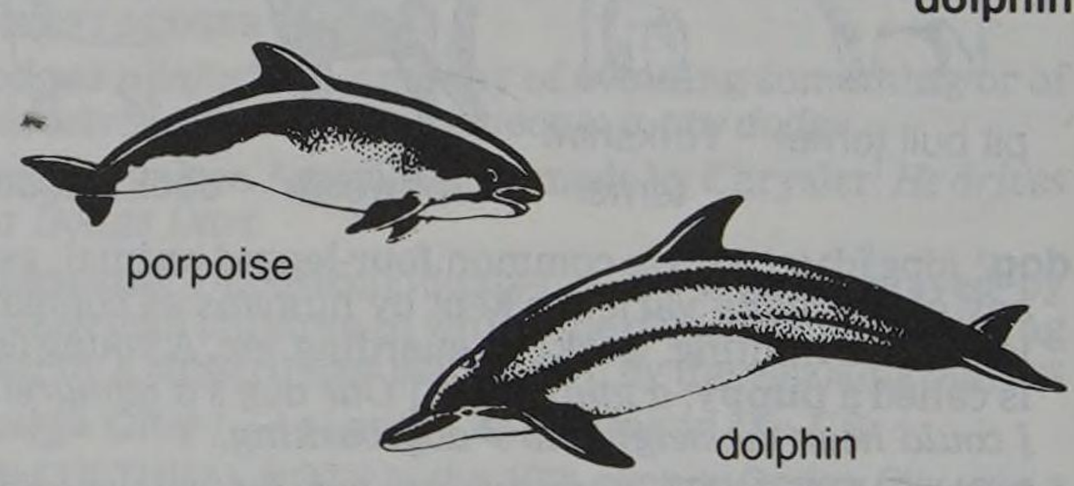
dol·ly /ˈdɒli‖ˈdɑːli, ˈdɔːli/ *n* **1** (used esp. by and to children) a child's doll **2** *tech* a flat frame on wheels for moving heavy objects, such as television or cinema cameras

dolly bird /ˈ·· ·/ also **dolly** *n BrE infml, old-fash, usu. derog* a pretty young woman, esp. one wearing fashionable clothes and not considered very intelligent

dol·men /ˈdɒlmen, -mən‖ˈdəʊlmən, ˈdɔːl-, ˈdɑːl-/ also **cromlech** *n tech* a group of upright stones supporting a large flat piece of stone, built in ancient times in Britain and France. The most famous example in Britain is Stonehenge.

dol·our *BrE* ‖ **-or** *AmE* /ˈdɒləʳ‖ˈdəʊ-/ *n* [U] *poet* great sorrow —**-orous** *adj* —**-orously** *adv*

dolphin



dol·phin /ˈdɒlfɨn‖ˈdɑːl-, ˈdɔːl-/ *n* a sea animal two to three metres long, which swims about in groups, going over and under the surface of the water in curves. Dolphins are known to be very clever and friendly to humans.

dol·phi·na·ri·um /ˌdɒlfɨˈneəriəm‖ˌdɑːl-, ˌdɔːl-/ *n* a pool, sometimes with transparent walls, where dolphins are kept and the public can see them

dolt /dəʊlt/ *n old-fash, derog* a slow-thinking foolish person: *Don't drop it, you dolt!* — ~**ish** *adj* — ~**ishly** *adv*

do·main /dəˈmeɪn, dəʊ-/ *n* **1** an area of activity, interest, or knowledge; REALM: *This problem lies outside the domain of medical science.* **2** *esp. old use* the land owned or controlled by one person, a government, etc.

dome /dəʊm/ *n* **1** a rounded roof on a building or room **2** something of this shape: *the blue dome of the sky | the pink dome of his bald head*

domed /dəʊmd/ *adj* (*often in comb.*) covered with or shaped like a dome

Domes·day Book, Doomsday Book /ˈduːmzdeɪ bʊk/ [*the*] a record of all the lands of England, showing their size, value, ownership, etc., made in 1086 on the orders of William the Conqueror. The Domesday Book has been very valuable in the study of English history.

do·mes·tic[1] /dəˈmestɪk/ *adj* **1** of or in the house or home: *domestic electrical goods* **2** concerning the family or private life: *Her domestic problems are beginning to affect her work.* **3** enjoying home duties and pleasures: *In spite of being a successful career woman, she's basically very domestic.* **4** of or within a particular country; not foreign or international: *the government's domestic policies | domestic flights* — ~**ally** /kli/ *adv*

domestic[2] *n* a servant who works in a house

domestic an·i·mal /·ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n* an animal that is not wild but is kept in a house or on a farm

do·mes·ti·cate /dəˈmestɨkeɪt/ *v* [T] **1** to make (an animal) able to live with people and work for them, esp. on a farm or as a pet: *Cows were domesticated to provide us with milk.* —compare TAME[2] (1) **2** [*usu. pass.*] to cause to enjoy living at home and doing jobs around the house: *Their son is very domesticated and often does the cooking.* —**cation** /dəˌmestɨˈkeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

do·mes·tic·i·ty /ˌdəʊmesˈtɪsɨti/ *n* [U] (a liking for) home or family life: *a scene of happy domesticity*

domestic sci·ence /·ˌ·· ˈ··/ also **housecraft** *BrE,* also **home economics** *n* [U] the study of the skills of housekeeping, such as cooking and sewing. It is taught as a subject in many British and American schools, esp. to girls

domestic ser·vice /·ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [U] (esp. in former times) the work of a servant in a house. In Britain it is no longer common for people to have servants living in their houses, although many people employ other people to help them clean their house for a few hours each week. —see also CLEANER, CLEANING LADY, SERVANT

domestic vi·o·lence /·ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n* [U] violence that takes place in the home, usu. between a husband and wife: *the bad old days when the police didn't think that domestic violence counted as a crime*

Do·mes·tos /dəˈmestɒs ‖ -əʊs/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a type of BLEACH made by Lever Brothers Limited used in the home to kill GERMS, clean up dirt and remove nasty smells

dom·i·cile /ˈdɒmɨsaɪl‖ˈdɑː-, ˈdəʊ-/ *n fml or law* a person's home; the place where a person lives or is considered to live for official purposes: *His last known domicile was 10 New Street, Cambridge.*

dom·i·ciled /ˈdɒmɨsaɪld ‖ ˈdɑː-, ˈdəʊ-/ *adj* [F+*adv*/*prep*] *fml or law* having one's domicile: *He does some work in the Middle East but is domiciled in Britain for tax purposes.*

dom·i·cil·i·a·ry /ˌdɒmɨˈsɪlɪəri‖ˌdɑːmɨˈsɪlieri, ˌdəʊ-/ *adj* [A] *fml or law* of, to, or at someone's home: *The health inspectors spend 50% of their time on domiciliary visits.*

dom·i·nance /ˈdɒmɨnəns‖ˈdɑː-/ *n* [U] the fact or position of dominating; importance, power, or controlling influence: *Our dominance of the market is seriously threatened by this new product.* —compare DOMINATION

dom·i·nant[1] /ˈdɒmɨnənt‖ˈdɑː-/ *adj* **1** most noticeable or important: *Blue is the dominant colour in his later paintings.* | *Peace was the dominant theme of the conference.* **2** high and easily seen: *The Town Hall was built in a dominant position on a hill.* **3** stronger than the other parts of a system or group: *The right hand is dominant in most people.* | *a dominant group in society* **4** tending to dominate other people: *a dominant personality* **5** *tech* (of groups of physical qualities passed on from parent to child) able to appear in the child even if only in the GENES of one parent: *Brown eyes are dominant and blue eyes are recessive.*

dominant[2] *n* [(*the*) S] the fifth note of a musical scale of eight notes —compare TONIC[2] (3)

dom·i·nate /ˈdɒmɨneɪt‖ˈdɑː-/ *v* [I;T] **1** to have or exercise control or power (over): *The committee works well together, although sometimes the chairman tends to dominate.* **2** to have the most important place or position (in): *The team has dominated international football for years.* | *The great cathedral dominates the centre of the city.* | *The election campaign was dominated by the issue of unemployment.*

dom·i·na·tion /ˌdɒmɨˈneɪʃən‖ˌdɑː-/ *n* [U] the act of dominating or the state of being dominated: *After the leader died, rival parties struggled for domination of the community.* —compare DOMINANCE

dom·i·neer /ˌdɒmɨˈnɪəʳ‖ˌdɑː-/ *v* [I (**over**)] *usu. derog* to try to control other people, usu. without any consideration of their feelings or wishes: *a domineering personality*

Do·min·go /dəˈmɪŋgəʊ/, **Pla·ci·do** /ˈplæsɨdəʊ/ (1941–) a Spanish OPERA singer who has played leading TENOR parts in operas in many countries since 1962 and is considered to be one of the best opera singers in the world

Dom·i·ni·ca /ˌdɒmɨˈniːkə‖ˌdɑː-/ the Commonwealth of Dominica, an island in the West Indies which has been a member of the COMMONWEALTH (1) since 1978; chief town Roseau; population 81,000 (1989) —**can** *n, adj*

Do·min·i·can /dəˈmɪnɪkən/ *adj, n* (a member) of a Christian religious group established by St Dominic in 1215, who lead a holy life according to a particular set of religious rules

Do·min·i·can Re·pub·lic /dəˌmɪnɪkən rɪˈpʌblɪk/ [*the*] a country in the West Indies on the island of Hispaniola, which it shares with Haiti; capital Santo Domingo; population 7,019,000 (1989)

do·min·ion /dəˈmɪnjən/ *n* **1** [U (**over**)] *esp. lit* the power or right to rule: *Alexander the Great held dominion over a vast area.* **2** [C] the land(s) held in complete control by one person, ruler, or government: *the king's dominion(s)*

Dominion Day /·ˈ·· ˌ·/ a national holiday in Canada, in memory of the beginning of the Dominion of Canada in 1867

Do·min·ions /dəˈmɪnjənz/ *n* [*the*+P] countries including Australia, New Zealand, and Canada, which belonged to the British Empire, ruled themselves, and had the same king or queen as Britain

dom·i·no /ˈdɒmɨnəʊ‖ˈdɑː-/ *n* **-noes** one of a set of small flat pieces of wood, plastic, etc., with a different number of spots on each, used for playing a game (**dominoes**)

Domino, Fats /fæts/ (1928–) an American popular music singer, songwriter, and PIANIST who made many very successful records in the 1950s. He was a leading figure in the development of ROCK 'N' ROLL.

domino ef·fect /ˈ··· ·ˌ·/ *n* [(*the*) S] (usu. in politics) a situation in which one event or action causes similar (usu. undesirable) actions to happen one after another, in the way that a row of standing dominoes will fall over one after another if one of them is pushed —compare KNOCK-ON

domino theo·ry /ˈ··· ˌ··/ *n* [U] the idea that if one country becomes Communist, then other countries in that area will also become Communist

don[1] /dɒn‖dɑːn/ *n BrE* a university teacher, esp. at Oxford and Cambridge

don[2] *v* **-nn-** [T] *old use or pomp* to put on (clothing and hats) —opposite **doff**

Don *n* (used in Spanish-speaking countries as a polite title before a man's first name): *Don Miguel*

Don [*the*] a river in SW Russia

Don·a·hue /ˈdɒnəhjuː‖ˈdɑːn-/, **Phil** /fɪl/ (1935–) the host of a popular American talk show

Don·ald Duck /ˌdɒnəld ˈdʌk‖ˌdɑː-/ a character, based on a duck, in the CARTOONS of Walt Disney. Donald Duck was one of the first Disney characters and is now recognized as a SYMBOL of Disney. —compare MICKEY MOUSE[1]

do·nate /dəʊˈneɪt‖ˈdəʊneɪt/ *v* [I;T (**to**)] to make a gift of (something), esp. for a good purpose: *Last year he donated £1000 to cancer research.* —see also DONOR

do·na·tion /dəʊˈneɪʃən/ *n* [C;U (**to**)] the act of donating or something donated: *We are collecting donations for the relief fund.* | *They made a generous donation to charity.* | *The hospital receives a good deal of money in donations.*

Don·cas·ter /ˈdɒŋkəstəʳ‖ˈdɑːŋkæs-/ an industrial town in S Yorkshire in the north of England, which is known for its race course where the **St. Leger** race is held every year

done[1] /dʌn/ *past participle of* DO[1,2]

done[2] *adj* [F *no comp.*] **1** [(**with**)] finished: *The job's nearly done.* | *When you are done, give us a call.* | *The affair's now* **over and done with.** (=completely ended) **2** also **done for** /ˈ· ·/, **done in** /ˌ· ˈ·/— very tired: *I feel completely done in!* **3** cooked enough to eat: *Are the potatoes done yet?* **4** socially acceptable: *It's not done to call the teachers by their first names.* | *It's* **the done thing** *to serve champagne at weddings.* **5 Done!** Agreed! I accept!: *"I'll give you £5 for it." "Done!"* —see also **be hard done by** (HARD[2] (3))

Don·e·gal /ˌdɒnɪˈgɔːl‖ˌdɑː-/ a COUNTY in the NW of the Republic of Ireland

Don Gio·van·ni /ˌdɒn dʒəʊˈvɑːni‖ˌdɑːn-/ *n infml* **1** a DON JUAN **2** an OPERA by Mozart

Don Ju·an /ˌdɒn ˈhwɑːn, -ˈwɑːn, -ˈdʒuːən‖ˌdɑːn-/ *n infml* a man who is a great lover; LADY-KILLER (from an old Spanish story in which Don Juan SEDUCES a young girl

and kills her father, but ends up in HELL): *He thinks he's a bit of a Don Juan.*

don·key /ˈdɒŋki‖ˈdɑːŋki/ *n* **1** a grey or brown animal like a horse, but smaller and with longer ears; ASS[1]: *a photograph of Susan having a* **donkey ride** *at the seaside.*

►CULTURAL NOTE Donkeys are thought to be STUBBORN, which means that they are determined to do what they want and it is difficult to make them do anything else. At the seaside and at some outdoor shows or entertainments, etc. in Britain, children can have donkey rides.◄

2 a foolish slow-thinking person

donkey der·by /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a race on donkeys done for amusement, e.g. at a village FETE or on a BEACH

donkey jack·et /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n BrE* a thick coat, usu. very dark blue, reaching down to the top of the legs, and usu. with a piece of leather or plastic across the shoulders. Donkey jackets are usu. worn by people with outdoor jobs, such as LABOURERS.

donkey's years /ˈ·· ·/ *n* [U] *BrE sl* a very long time: *That was donkey's years ago.* | *I haven't seen him for donkey's years.*

don·key·work /ˈdɒŋkiwɜːk‖ˈdɑːŋkiwɜːrk/ *n* [U] *infml, esp. BrE* the hard uninteresting part of a piece of work: *Why do I always have to do the donkeywork?*

Donne /dʌn/, **John** (1571 or 72–1631) an English religious and love poet, the greatest of the writers of METAPHYSICAL poetry, in which strong feeling and clever reason are combined

don·nish /ˈdɒnɪʃ‖ˈdɑːnɪʃ/ *adj esp. BrE* typical of a university DON, esp. in being more interested in ideas than in real life; BOOKISH —~**ly** *adv*

do·nor /ˈdəʊnəʳ/ *n* **1** a person who gives or DONATEs something **2** (*often in comb.*) someone who gives part of their body to be put into someone else for medical purposes: *a blood|kidney donor*

donor card /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a card carried by people who agree that when they die parts of their body, such as their eyes or KIDNEYS, can be used by doctors, e.g. by being put into the body of another person

Don·o·van /ˈdɒnəvən‖ˈdɑː-/, **Ja·son** /ˈdʒeɪsən/ (1968–) an Australian singer and actor who, with Kylie Minogue, appeared in the Australian television SOAP OPERA "Neighbours", and then went on to become a successful singer. He is popular esp. with young TEENAGERS and considered good-looking and attractive in a healthy, homely way.

Don Quix·ote /ˌdɒn ˈkwɪksət, -kiˈhəʊti‖ˌdɑːn-/ a character in the book *Don Quixote de la Mancha* by Miguel de Cervantes. Don Quixote is an IDEALIST who is prepared to fight for what he believes in, but he often misunderstands things or makes foolish mistakes. For example, he is remembered esp. for **tilting at windmills**, attacking WINDMILLS because he thought they were dangerous MONSTERS.

don't /dəʊnt/ *short for:* **1** do not: *Don't worry!* | *You know him, don't you?* —see also **dos and don'ts** (DO[3]) **2** *nonstandard, esp. AmE* does not: *She don't like it.*

do·nut /ˈdəʊnʌt/ *n AmE* DOUGHNUT

doo·dah /ˈduːdɑː/ *BrE* ‖ **doo·dad** /ˈduːdæd/ *AmE– n infml,* often *humor* a small object whose name one has forgotten or does not know; THINGAMAJIG; WHATSIT: *Pass us that doodah, will you?* | *What's this little doodad?* | *Have you got the doodad that goes with this?* —see also DOOHICKEY, WHATCHAMACALLIT

doo·dle /ˈduːdl/ *v* [I] to draw lines, figures, etc., while thinking about something else: *I always doodle when I'm making phone calls.* —**doodle** *n*: *His notebook was covered in doodles.*

doo·dle·bug /ˈduːdlbʌg/ *n* a V-1

doo·hick·ey /ˈduːhɪki/ *n AmE infml, humor* a small object whose name one has forgotten or does not know; a small bit of machinery: *Press this button and twist that doohickey to turn it on.*

Doo·lit·tle /ˈduːlɪtl/, **E·li·za** /ɪˈlaɪzə/ a character in Shaw's play *Pygmalion*. Eliza is a working class London flower seller who is taught by Professor Henry Higgins to speak and behave like a rich lady. —see also PYGMALION

doom[1] /duːm/ *n* [C *usu. sing.*;U] **1** a terrible fate; unavoidable destruction or death: *to meet one's doom* | *to go to one's doom* **2 doom and gloom** *infml* sad and discouraging thoughts; hopelessness: *The new economic forecast is full of doom and gloom.*

doom[2] *v* [T (**to**) *usu. pass.*] to cause to suffer something unavoidable and terrible, such as death or destruction: *The plan was doomed (to failure) from the start.* | *We saw the doomed aircraft just before it crashed.* [+*obj*+*to-v*] *They were doomed to die.*

Dooms·day /ˈduːmzdeɪ/ **1** the last day of the world's existence **2 till Doomsday** *infml* forever: *You'll be stuck in this job till Doomsday unless you get some better qualifications.*

Doomsday Book /ˈ·· ·/ [*the*] DOMESDAY BOOK

Doones·bu·ry /ˈduːnzbəri/ an American COMIC STRIP by Gary Trudeau which shows the foolishness of American politics and ways of life in an amusing way

door /dɔːʳ/ *n* **1** a movable flat or panelled (PANEL[2]) surface that opens and closes the entrance to a building, room, vehicle, or piece of furniture: *to open|shut the door* | *I can hear someone knocking at the door.* | *the cupboard door|kitchen door|car door* | *If you can't get in the front door, go to the back door.* | *Will you* **answer the door?** (=open it to let someone in) | *Goodbye, Mr Carter – my secretary will show you to the door.* (=take you to the main door) | *When he became drunk and aggressive his host* **showed him the door.** (=made it clear he was not welcome and should leave) | (fig.) *This agreement opens the door to|shuts the door on improved relations between our two countries.* | (fig.) *Discussions have been going on* **behind closed doors.** (=in secret) —compare GATE (1) **2** an opening for a door; DOORWAY: *She came through the door.* **3** (in certain fixed phrases) a house or building: *My sister lives only two doors away|a few doors away.* | *Our house is* **next door to** *the paper shop.* | *The journey takes about six hours* **(from) door to door.** | *We went from door to door collecting money for charity.* **4 be on the door** to have some duty at the entrance to a theatre, club, etc., such as collecting tickets **5 lay something at someone's door** to blame something on someone **6 out of doors** in the open air; OUTDOORS **7 shut the door in someone's face** to refuse to listen to or deal with someone: *We offered the management a compromise but they just shut the door in our face.* —see also BACK DOOR, FRONT DOOR, NEXT DOOR, **at death's door** (DEATH)

door·bell /ˈdɔːbel‖ˈdɔːr-/ *n* a bell that visitors to a house can ring for attention

door·keep·er /ˈdɔːˌkiːpəʳ‖ˈdɔːr-/ *n* a person who guards the main door of a large building and lets people in and out —compare DOORMAN

door·knob /ˈdɔːnɒb‖ˈdɔːrnɑːb/ *n* a usu. round handle on a door to open it with

door·knock·er /ˈdɔːnɒkəʳ‖ˈdɔːrˌnɑːkər/ *n* a metal instrument fixed to a door and used by visitors for knocking at it

door·man /ˈdɔːmæn, -mən‖ˈdɔːr-/ *n* **-men** /men, mən/ a man in a hotel, theatre, etc., who watches the door, helps people to find taxis, sometimes lets people in and out, and usu. wears a uniform —compare DOORKEEPER

door·mat /ˈdɔːmæt‖ˈdɔːr-/ *n* a mat placed in front of or inside a door for cleaning one's shoes on: (fig.) *She's been treated like a doormat by that family of hers all her life.* (=they have never considered her feelings or needs and she has never complained)

door·nail /ˈdɔːneɪl‖ˈdɔːr-/ *n* see **dead as a doornail** (DEAD[1])

door·plate /ˈdɔːpleɪt‖ˈdɔːr-/ *n* a flat piece of metal, usu. brass, fixed to a door and bearing a name, esp. the name of the person living or working inside —see also NAMEPLATE

door prize /ˈ· ·/ *n AmE* a prize given to someone who has drawn or paid for a winning ticket at a show, dance, or party, esp. if the purpose of the draw is to raise money for CHARITY

door·step /ˈdɔːstep‖ˈdɔːr-/ *n* **1** a step in front of an outer door **2** *BrE sl* a very thick piece of bread cut from a loaf **3 on one's doorstep** very near to where one lives or is staying: *"Is the lake far from your hotel?" "No, it's right on our doorstep!"*

door·step·ping /ˈdɔːˌstepɪŋ‖ˈdɔːr-/ *n, adj* [A;U] *BrE derog* (the practice of) causing people inconvenience in private in order to find things to write about them in newspapers: *doorstepping journalists*

door·stop /ˈdɔːstɒp‖ˈdɔːrstɑːp/ *BrE* ‖ also **door·stop·per** /-stɒpəʳ‖-stɑː-/– *n* an apparatus for holding a door open or preventing it from opening too far

door-to-door sales·man /ˌ· · · ˈ··/ *n* a sales person who visits people in their homes, without invitation, to try to sell them something and who is often very clever at persuading people to buy things they do not need. In Britain, the image that many people have of a door-to-door salesman is of someone who uses lies and tricks in order to sell things, the most popular trick being to put one foot inside the open door of a house so that the person who lives there cannot close the door and has to listen to the salesman. This kind of selling is common for home improvements e.g. DOUBLE-GLAZING, and also ENCYCLOPEDIAS.

door·way /ˈdɔːweɪ‖ˈdɔːr-/ *n* an opening for a door into a building or room (not into a piece of furniture): *She stood in the doorway, unable to decide whether to go in.*

dope[1] /dəʊp/ *n* **1** [U] *infml* an ILLEGAL drug, esp. MARIJUANA: *He was arrested for selling dope.* | *a dope dealer* (=someone who sells drugs) **2** [C] *infml* a stupid person **3** [U (**on**)] *old-fash sl* information, esp. from someone who can be trusted: *Give me all the dope on the new teacher.* **4** [U] *old-fash* any thick liquid used for making machines run easily

dope[2] *v* [T (UP)] *infml* to give a drug to (a person) or put a drug in (food or drink), esp. in order to make someone sleepy: *They doped his drink and then robbed the house while he lay unconscious.* | *The horse was disqualified from the race because it had been doped.*

dop·ey , dopy /ˈdəʊpi/ *adj* **1** *infml* dull and inactive in the mind and feelings as if from alcohol or a drug; not fully awake: *Lack of sleep can make you feel dopey.* **2** *sl* stupid

Dopey one of the seven DWARFS in the Walt Disney film *Snow White*. He is not very clever.

dop·pel·gäng·er /ˈdɒpəlgæŋəʳ, -geŋ-‖ˈdɑː-/ *n Ger* the spirit of a living person seen as the person's double; a WRAITH

Dop·pler ef·fect /ˈdɒplər ɪˌfekt‖ˈdɑː-/ *n* [*the*] *tech* a noticed change in the frequency of sound or light waves produced by a moving object, caused by a change of speed or direction in relation to the person listening to the object. The effect can be noted e.g. when the sound of a SIREN (=noise made by a fire engine) becomes lower as it passes by. –see also RED SHIFT

Dor·ches·ter /ˈdɔːtʃɪstəʳ‖ˈdɔːrtʃes-/ a market town in Dorset, S England, known for its connections with the writer Thomas Hardy, who was born nearby. The local government of Dorset is based there.

Dorchester [*the*] a large, expensive hotel in London

Dor·dogne /dɔːˈdɔɪn‖dɔːrˈdəʊn / [*the*] an area in SW France around the River Dordogne which is popular with British tourists

Do·ri·an Gray /ˌdɔːriən ˈgreɪ/ the main character from Oscar Wilde's story *The Picture of Dorian Gray* in which Dorian's PORTRAIT (=a painting of a person) is physically marked with the signs of the bad life he is living while Dorian remains young and good-looking until his death. When he dies, he and the portrait change faces and the truth becomes known.

Dor·ic /ˈdɒrɪk‖ˈdɔː-, ˈdɑː-/ *adj* of, like, or typical of the oldest and simplest style of ancient Greek building: *a Doric pillar* –compare CORINTHIAN, IONIC

Do·ri·tos /dəˈriːtəʊz/ *n tdmk* (a packet of) a type of CORN CHIP that tastes slightly hot

dork /dɔːk‖dɔːrk/ *n AmE sl* a person who is considered stupid because they behave strangely or wear odd clothes: *He didn't get the joke. What a dork!* –**~y** *adj* : *a dorky grin*

dor·mant /ˈdɔːmənt‖ˈdɔːr-/ *adj* inactive, esp. not actually growing or producing typical effects: *These bulbs remain dormant for a period of time, before becoming active again under the earth during winter.* | *a dormant volcano* | (fig.) *The report lay dormant for two years while the company tried to find additional finances to implement its suggestions.*

dor·mer /ˈdɔːməʳ‖ˈdɔːr-/ also **dormer win·dow** /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a window built upright in a sloping roof

dor·mi·to·ry[1] /ˈdɔːmɪtəri‖ˈdɔːrmɪtɔːri/ also **dorm** /dɔːm‖dɔːrm/*infml*– *n* **1** a large room for sleeping in, containing a number of beds; usu. in a BOARDING SCHOOL or YOUTH HOSTEL: *The girls planned a midnight feast in the dormitory.* **2** *AmE* a building in a college or university, where students live and sleep; HALL OF RESIDENCE

dormitory[2] *adj* [A] *esp. BrE* ‖ **bedroom** *AmE*– (of a place) from which people travel to work in the city every day: *a dormitory town/suburb*

dor·mo·bile /ˈdɔːməbiːl‖ˈdɔːr-/ also **camper van** *BrE* ‖ **camper** *AmE n tdmk* a vehicle big enough to live in when on holiday, having cooking equipment and beds in the back part

dor·mouse /ˈdɔːmaʊs‖ˈdɔːr-/ *n* **-mice** /maɪs/ a small European woodland animal with a long furry tail that looks rather like a small SQUIRREL. In Lewis Carroll's children's book *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* one of the characters is a dormouse. It is always very sleepy. –see colour picture on page 619

Dor·o·thy Per·kins /ˌdɒrəθi ˈpɜːkɪnz‖ˌdɔːrəθi ˈpɜːr-/ *n* one of a group of shops in Britain which sells women's clothes at quite low prices: *There's a Dorothy Perkins just off Broad Street.*

Dors /dɔːz‖dɔːrz/, **Diana** (1931–84) a popular English film and television actress thought of as very sexy when young

dor·sal /ˈdɔːsəl‖ˈdɔːr-/ *adj* [A] *tech* of, on, or near the back, esp. of an animal: *the* **dorsal fin** *of a shark*

Dor·set /ˈdɔːsɨt‖ˈdɔːr-/ a COUNTY in SW England on the Channel coast; ADMINISTRATIVE capital Dorchester

do·ry /ˈdɔːri/ *n* a flat-bottomed rowing boat used for fishing

DOS /dɒs‖dɑːs/ *tdmk abbrev. for:* disk operating system, the SOFTWARE which is loaded into a computer to instruct it to operate

dos·age /ˈdəʊsɪdʒ/ *n fml* [*usu. sing.*] the amount of a dose: *a dosage of one tablet three times a day for seven days*

dose[1] /dəʊs/ *n* **1** [(**of**)] a measured amount (of a medicine) given or to be taken at one time: *Take one dose of this cough syrup three times a day.* | (fig.) *In the accident, the workers received a heavy dose of radiation.* **2** [(**of**)] a period of experiencing something unpleasant: *a bad dose of flu* **3** *sl* a case of GONORRHEA **4 like a dose of salts** *BrE infml* very quickly and easily: *This new dishwasher will get through all the dirty dishes like a dose of salts.*

dose[2] *v* [T (UP, **with**)] *often derog* to give medicine to: *She dosed up the children with cough syrup.*

dosh /dɒʃ‖dɑːʃ/ *n* [U] *BrE sl* money: *Have you got any dosh?*

do-si-do /ˌdəʊ siː ˈdəʊ/ *n* an action in a COUNTRY DANCE in which partners pass each other back to back

doss[1] /dɒs‖dɑːs/ *n* [S] *sl, esp. BrE* a short sleep: *to have a doss*

doss[2] *v*

doss down *phr v* [I] *sl, esp. BrE* to lie down to sleep, esp. not in a proper bed or one's usual place: *It was too late to go home, so I dossed down on their floor.*

doss·er /ˈdɒsəʳ‖ˈdɑː-/ *n sl, esp. BrE* a homeless person who sleeps in a variety of places; TRAMP

doss·house /ˈdɒshaʊs‖ˈdɑːs-/ *n* **-houses** /haʊzɨz/ *sl, esp. BrE* a cheap lodging house, esp. one for short stays

dos·si·er /ˈdɒsieɪ‖ˈdɔːsjeɪ, ˈdɑː-/ *n* a set of papers containing detailed information on a person or subject; FILE: *The secret police keep dossiers on all opponents of the government.*

dost /dʌst/ **thou dost** *old use or bibl* you do

Dos·toy·ev·sky , Dostoevsky, Dostoevski /ˌdɒstɔɪˈefski ‖ ˌdɑːstəˈyef-/, **Fe·od·or Mi·khail·o·vich** /ˈfiːədɔːʳ mɪˈkaɪləvɪtʃ/ (1821–81) a Russian writer who wrote many NOVELS about human thought and behaviour and who spent many years in a prison camp in Siberia because of his political beliefs. He is considered to be a very important figure in world literature and his novels include *Crime and Punishment* and *The Brothers Karamazov.*

dot[1] /dɒt‖dɑːt/ *n* **1** a small round mark or spot: *Put a dot over the letter i.* | *He watched the train until it was only a dot in the distance.* | *Her blouse was black with white dots on it.* **2** a short sound or flash of light used in sending messages by MORSE CODE –compare DASH[2] (7) **3 on the dot** *infml* at the exact point in time: *The three o'clock train arrived on the dot.* | *It arrived on the dot of three o'clock.* –see also YEAR DOT

dot[2] *v* **-tt-** [T] **1** to mark with a dot: *to dot a j* | *a dotted minim* **2** [*often pass.*] to cover (as if) with dots: *a lake*

dotted with little boats | The company now has over 20 stores dotted about the country. **3** *infml* **to dot one's/the i's and cross one's/the t's** to be extremely careful in a slightly annoying way: *This new textbook is supposed to be for advanced students but it really dots the i's and crosses the t's.* —see also DOTTED LINE

do·tage /ˈdəʊtɪdʒ/ *n* **in one's dotage** weak in one's mind because of old age

dote /dəʊt/ *v*

dote on/upon sbdy. *phr v* [T] to show great fondness for, esp. in a way that seems foolish: *He dotes on his youngest son.*

doth /dʌθ/ *old use or bibl* does

dot·ing /ˈdəʊtɪŋ/ *adj* [A] extremely fond, esp. foolishly so: *a doting husband who thinks his wife can do no wrong* —~**ly** *adv*

dot-ma·trix print·er /ˈ· ·· ˌ··/ *n* a printing machine that forms characters from dots printed by needles in a single unit

dotted line /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* **1** a line of dots on paper, usu. one on which something is to be written, such as one's name or the answer to a question: *On this map paths are shown by dotted lines.* **2 sign on the dotted line** *infml* to agree to something unconditionally, esp. by signing an official paper

dot·ty /ˈdɒti‖ˈdɑːti/ *adj infml* weak-minded; slightly mad: *My aunt has gone a bit dotty in her old age.*

doub·le[1] /ˈdʌbəl/ *adj* **1** consisting of two similar or combined parts; two together: *double doors | a double lock on the door | The word "better" has a double "t" in the middle. | a double murder* (=in which two people are killed at the same time) *| a double-page advertisement in a magazine | The company received a double blow when it lost two big orders in one week. | a double gin* (=two measures of GIN) —compare SINGLE[1] (2) **2** made for two people: *a double bed | a double room in a hotel* **3** having two different uses or qualities; DUAL: *a double meaning | This switch has a double purpose. | The teacher was accused of applying* **double standards.** (=of treating one group differently from another) **4** deceiving; seeming to be one thing while actually being another: *to lead a double life* —see also DOUBLE-DEALER **5** (of a flower) having more than the usual number of PETALS: *a double daffodil* —see also DOUBLY —**double** *adv* : *a piece of cloth folded double | When you drink too much you sometimes see double. | He was almost* **bent double** *with age.* (=having a very bent back)

double[2] *n* **1** [C;U] something that is twice the size, quantity, value, or strength of something else: *I paid only £2 for this old book and a dealer offered me double* (=£4) *for it. | "Would you like a whisky?" "I'll have a double, please."* (=a double measure) **2** [C] a person who looks very much like another: *He is my double, though we are not related.* **3** [C] an actor or actress who takes the place of another in a film for some special, esp. dangerous, purpose **4** [C] a BET (=act of risking money) on two races, with any money won on the first being risked on the second: *He won the daily double.* **5** [C] (in the card game of BRIDGE) an act of doubling (DOUBLE[4] (3)) **6** [C] (in the game of DARTS) a throw of the dart that hits a point between the two outer circles on the board, and has twice the usual value **7** in BASEBALL, a hit which allows the BATTER[3] to reach second base **8 at/on the double** very quickly and without any delay: *The soldiers marched off at the double. | I phoned him as it was an emergency, and he came round at the double.* **9 double or quits** *BrE* ‖ **double or nothing** *AmE* the decision (in a game where money is risked, such as DICE) to risk winning twice the amount one has already won, or losing it all —see also DOUBLES

double[3] *predeterminer* twice: *I bought double the amount of milk. | His weight is double what it was ten years ago. | Her income is double the national average.*

double[4] *v* **1** [I;T] to make, be, or become twice as great or as many: *Sales doubled in five years. | The house has doubled in value since I bought it. | They doubled their output with the new machine.* **2** [T (BACK, OVER)] to fold in half: *Double this blanket and put it over the baby.* **3** [I] (in the card game of BRIDGE) to make twice as much as what the opponents will lose if they lose, or win if they win **4** [I] (in BASEBALL) to hit the ball so as to allow the BATTER[3] to run to second base: *Garvey doubled to left field.*

double as sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] to have a second use, job, or purpose as: *This chair doubles as a bed. | In the play, Mary is playing the part of the dancer but also doubles as the mother.*

double back *phr v* [I] to turn suddenly and sharply back; return along the same path: *He started running towards the street but suddenly doubled back to the house.*

double up *phr v* **1** [I;T (=**double** sbdy. ↔ **up**)] **a** (of a person) to bend at the waist, usu. with pain or laughter: *They all doubled up with laughter.* **b** to cause to do this: *He was doubled up with pain.* **2** [I (**with**)] to share a bedroom: *When the guests came, she doubled up with her sister.*

double-act /ˈ·· ·/ *n* two COMEDIANS who work and perform together

double a·gent /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* someone who is employed by the government of one country to find out secret information about an enemy country while pretending to work in the same way for that enemy country —compare SPY[2] (1)

double-bar·relled *BrE* ‖ **-reled** *AmE*– /ˌ·· ˈ··◂/ *adj* **1** (of a gun) having two barrels fixed side by side **2** *BrE infml* (of family names) having two parts, as in *Smith-Fortescue: A double-barrelled name is thought to show that someone is of high social class.* **3** *AmE* having two purposes: *a double-barreled plan* **4** *AmE* being very strong or forceful: *a double-barreled attack*

double bass /ˌdʌbəl ˈbeɪs/ also **bass** *n* the largest and deepest instrument of the VIOLIN family

double bed /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* a bed in which two people can sleep together —see picture at BED

double bill /ˌ·· ˈ·/ also **double feature** *n* a cinema or theatre performance in which two main films or plays are shown

double bind /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* a situation in which any choice a person makes will have unpleasant results

double-blind /ˌ·· ˈ·◂/ *adj tech* (of an EXPERIMENT or study comparing two or more groups) in which neither the experimenters nor the people being studied know which people are being given the new drug, etc. and which are not: *In a double-blind study, the researchers gave a placebo drink or a little bit of alcohol to a small group of volunteers.*

double bluff /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* an attempt to deceive someone by telling them the truth in the hope that they will think one is lying —see also BLUFF

double boil·er /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [C] a piece of equipment for cooking food which consists of two pans that fit together, the lower pan having water in it

double-breast·ed /ˌ·· ˈ··◂/ *adj* (esp. of a coat or JACKET) made so that one side of the front is brought across the other side of the front with a double row of buttons —compare SINGLE-BREASTED and see picture at SUIT

double-check /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *v* [I;T] to examine (something) twice or again for exactness or quality: *These figures must be double-checked before the report is published.*

double chin /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* a fold of loose skin between the face and neck that looks like a second chin

double cream /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] *BrE* very thick cream —compare SINGLE CREAM

double-cross /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *v* [T] *sl* to cheat (esp. someone with whom one has already agreed to do something dishonest): *One of the thieves double-crossed the others by hiding the stolen jewels.* —**double cross** *n* —~**er** *n*

double date /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n infml, esp. AmE* a social meeting in which two couples go out together —**double-date** *v* [I (**with**)] : *Let's double-date (with Joanne and Jerry).*

double-deal·er /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n infml* a dishonest deceiving person —**-ing** *n* [U]

double-deck·er /ˌ·· ˈ··◂/ *n* **1 double-decker bus** /ˌ·· ·· ˈ·/ a bus with two levels, the typical British bus —compare SINGLE-DECKER **2** a SANDWICH made with three pieces of bread leaving two spaces that are filled with food

double-dip[1] /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n AmE* an ice cream CONE with two balls of ice cream

double-dip[2] *v* [I] *AmE* to collect pay or money from two places at once, usu. in a way that is not legal or not

approved of, such as receiving WELFARE while working

double-dutch /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] **1** *humor* speech or writing that one cannot understand; nonsense: *Their conversation about computers was all double-dutch to me!* **2** *AmE* a game of jumping over two long ropes which are quickly passed one after the other beneath the jumper's feet and over the head: *Most girls know eight or ten rhymes to go with double dutch.*

double-edged /ˌ·· ˈ·◂/ *adj* **1** having two cutting edges **2** having two quite different purposes or meanings: *a spy with a double-edged mission | a double-edged remark|compliment*

double en·ten·dre /ˌduːblɒnˈtɒndrə‖-blɑːnˈtɑːn-/ *n Fr* a word or phrase that may be understood in two different ways, one of which is usu. sexual

double fault /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* (in games like tennis) two mistakes in a player's SERVICE[1] (9), which may lose a point

double fea·ture /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* DOUBLE BILL

double fig·ures /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [P] the numbers 10 to 99: *I don't know how many people work there, but it's well into double figures.*

double first /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* (in Britain) two first-class university degrees obtained at the same time. People have to be very clever to achieve this: *a brilliant research doctor with a double first from Cambridge*

double-glaz·ing /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [U] *esp. BrE* glass on a window or door in two separate sheets with a space in between them. Double-glazing salesmen are known for putting a lot of pressure on people to buy their product: *The double-glazing keeps in the heat and keeps out the noise.* – **double-glaze** *v* [T]

Double Glouces·ter /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [U] a popular British cheese

doub·le·head·er /ˌdʌbəlˈhedəʳ/ *n* two games of BASEBALL played one after the other

double in·dem·ni·ty /ˌ·· ·ˈ···/ [U] *AmE law* a feature of a life insurance POLICY that allows for twice the amount of money to be paid if the insured person dies in a particular way, such as an accident: *a double indemnity clause*

double jeop·ar·dy /ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n esp. AmE law* the action of making a person face a trial twice for the same offence. This is forbidden in American law except in special situations.

double-joint·ed /ˌ·· ˈ··◂/ *adj* having joints that allow movement (esp. of the fingers) backwards as well as forwards: *He's double-jointed. | a double-jointed elbow*

double-park /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *v* [I;T] to park (a vehicle) on a road beside another vehicle already parked. It is ILLEGAL in Britain and the US.

double play /ˈ·· ·/ *n* in BASEBALL, the action of putting out two runners by throwing the ball quickly from one BASE to the next

double-quick /ˌ·· ˈ·◂/ *adj, adv infml* very quick(ly): *Get the doctor double-quick – the baby's swallowed a pin!*

double room /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* a room in a hotel, etc. in which two people can sleep: *Have you got a double room for one night, please?*

doub·les /ˈdʌbəlz/ *n* **doubles** a match, esp. of tennis, played between two pairs of players: *the men's|women's doubles at Wimbledon* –compare SINGLES; see also MIXED DOUBLES

double stan·dard /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* a rule, principle, judgment, etc. which is more severe for one set of people, situation, etc. than another, esp. the rules of sexual behaviour which are more severe for women than for men

doub·let /ˈdʌblɪt/ *n* a tight-fitting article of clothing for men, worn on the upper half of the body in Europe from about 1400 to the middle 1600s: *doublet and hose*

double take /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n infml* a quick but delayed movement of surprise usu. made for humorous effect (used esp. in the phrase **do a double take**)

double-talk /ˈ·· ·/ *n* [U] *infml* language that appears to be serious or sincere but may have more than one meaning or be a mixture of sense and nonsense –**double-talk** *v* [I;T] : *You can't double-talk your way out of this!* – ~**er** *n*

double·think /ˈdʌbəlˌθɪŋk/ *n* [U] *derog* belief in two opposing ideas at the same time

double time /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [U] **1** double wages paid to people who work at weekends or on public holidays as a reward for working on days when most people do not want to work –compare **time and a half** (TIME[1] (42)) **2** *AmE* a slow run, done esp. by people in the army

double vi·sion /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [U] (the state of) seeing two of everything after e.g. a knock on the head or too much alcohol

double wham·my /ˌdʌbəl ˈwæmi/ *n infml* a combination of two bad things which come together: *the double whammy of more taxes and higher prices*

double whis·key /ˌ·· ˈ··/ also **large whiskey** *n* **-whiskies** two measures of whiskey from a bottle in a bar, PUB, etc.: *a double whiskey and soda|coke*

double yel·low lines /ˌ·· ·· ˈ·/ , **double yellows** /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [P] two yellow lines painted on the side of a road next to the PAVEMENT to show that cars cannot be parked there –compare SINGLE YELLOW LINE

dou·bloon /dʌˈbluːn/ *n* a former gold coin of Spain and Spanish America

doub·ly /ˈdʌbli/ *adv* **1** to twice the degree: *to make doubly sure | You've got to be doubly careful when you're driving in fog.* **2** in two ways or for two reasons: *You are doubly mistaken.*

doubt[1] /daʊt/ *v* [T *not in progressive forms*] **1** to be uncertain about; not trust or have confidence in: *I doubt his honesty. | She did exactly what she promised – I'm sorry I ever doubted her. | I've always doubted the value of this approach to education.* **2** to consider unlikely: *We may have it ready by tomorrow, but I very much doubt it.* [+*that*] *I doubt that she will get the job.* (=I don't think she will) [+**if|whether**] *I doubt if|whether we will make a profit out of it.* (=I don't think we will) – ~**er** *n*

▷ USAGE In negative statements **doubt** is followed by *that*: *I don't* **doubt** (=I am certain) *that he's telling the truth.* In other statements **doubt** is often followed by *if* or *that*, though some people feel *whether* is the only correct form here: *I* **doubt** *whether he's telling the truth.* (=I do not believe he is telling the truth.)◁

doubt[2] *n* **1** [C;U (**about**)] (a feeling of) uncertainty of belief or opinion; lack of confidence or trust: *troubled by religious doubt|doubts* [+*wh-*] *| There's some doubt whether John will come on time. | I've no doubt who did it.* | [+(*that*)] *There's no doubt that he'll come. | He's quite sure that the business will do well, but I still* **have my doubts (about it).** | *It was* **without doubt** (=certainly) *the most successful film of the year.* **2** [U] a state of uncertainty: *The whole matter is still* **in (some) doubt.** | *Her guilt has been established* **beyond reasonable doubt|beyond the shadow of a doubt.** | *His ability has never been in doubt – the question is whether he is prepared to work hard.* **3 no doubt** almost certainly; very probably: *No doubt he was just trying to help. | The court will no doubt deal severely with the criminals. | "John will probably be late, won't he?" "No doubt."* –see also **benefit of the doubt** (BENEFIT[1])

▷ USAGE 1 **Doubt** is followed by *that* after *no* or *not*. Compare *There is no* **doubt** *that he is guilty* and *It seems to me that there is some* **doubt** *(as to) whether he is guilty.* 2 **No doubt** and (more formal) **doubtless** can be used simply to mean "I think" or "I agree": **No doubt** *you'll be at the party tonight* (=I expect you'll be there). But **without doubt** and **undoubtedly** express a stronger sense of knowing the real truth: *There will* **undoubtedly** (=certainly) *be trouble with the unions if she is dismissed.*◁

doubt·ful /ˈdaʊtfəl/ *adj* **1** [(**about**)] (of a person) full of doubt; uncertain; unconfident: *He says he can do it, but I'm rather doubtful (about it).* [F+**if,whether**] *I'm doubtful whether she will agree to this.* **2** causing doubt or uncertainty; open to question: *It's doubtful that he ever found out about it. | The story he gave the police is very doubtful.* **3** not settled or decided: *The future is too doubtful for us to make plans.* **4** not probable; unlikely: *It is doubtful that we can get the engine working before morning.* **5** probably worthless or dishonest; QUESTIONABLE: *a doubtful advantage | This document looks a bit doubtful – let's show it to a lawyer. | a promise of doubtful value | There's a rather* **doubtful character** *watching our house.* – ~**ly** *adv*

Doubting Thom·as /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n humor* a person who tends to express doubt and does not easily believe things (from the story in the Bible of the follower of Jesus called Thomas who did not believe that Jesus had risen from

the dead until he saw proof of it): *a Doubting Thomas who thought that the doctors had no chance of making him well again*

doubt·less /ˈdaʊtləs/ *adv* **1** very probably: *It will doubtless rain on the day of the garden party.* **2** without doubt; certainly: *They have doubtless planned a counter-attack.* —see DOUBT² (USAGE)

douche /duːʃ/ *n* (an instrument for forcing) a stream of water into or onto any part of the body to wash it, esp. for medical reasons

dough /dəʊ/ *n* [U] **1** flour mixed with water ready for baking **2** *sl* money

dough·boy /ˈdəʊbɔɪ/ *n AmE infml* an American soldier during the FIRST WORLD WAR

dough·nut¹ ‖also **donut** *AmE* /ˈdəʊnʌt/ *n* a small round often ring-shaped cake cooked in hot fat and covered with sugar: *a jam doughnut*

doughnut² *v* [I;T] to gather closely round (a person who is being filmed) in order to appear in the film with them —~**doughnutting** *n* [U]

dough·ty /ˈdaʊti/ *adj old use or humor* full of courage and determination

dough·y /ˈdəʊi/ *adj* **1** (of bread, cake, etc.) not cooked enough; soft or too soft **2** (of human skin) unhealthily pale; PASTY

Doug·las¹ /ˈdʌgləs/ the capital of the Isle of Man

Douglas², Kirk (1916–) an American film actor known for playing the HERO in films such as *Spartacus*

Douglas³, Mi·chael /ˈmaɪkəl/ an American film actor, son of Kirk Douglas, known for his part in the films *Fatal Attraction* and *Romancing the Stone*

Doug·lass /ˈdʌgləs/, **Fred·e·rick** /ˈfredərɪk/ (1817–95) a former slave who worked to get rid of the slave system and wrote the story of his own life

Doun·reay /ˈduːnreɪ, duːnˈreɪ/ a town in Scotland where there was a NUCLEAR power station until 1977

dour /dʊəʳ ˈdaʊə/ *adj* cold and unsmiling in one's nature or manner; cheerless; GLOOMY: *a dour character|expression* —~**ly** *adv*

douse , dowse /daʊs/ *v* [T (**with, in**)] to put into liquid (esp. water) or throw water over: *to douse a fire | I doused the cloths in disinfectant.*

dove¹ /dʌv/ *n* **1** a kind of PIGEON, a soft-voiced bird often used as a sign of peace and freedom from anything seen as wrong: *A pair of doves were cooing* (=making their gentle noise) *in a tree outside the window.* Doves are sometimes mentioned when people are talking about loving behaviour or life-long faithfulness between a man and a woman: *Gentle as a dove came the sound of her voice.| They were cuddling up to each other like a pair of doves.* **2** (in politics) a person in favour of peace and COMPROMISE —opposite **hawk**; see picture at HAWK

dove² /dəʊv/ *esp. AmE a past tense of* DIVE

dove·cote /ˈdʌvkəʊt, -kɒt‖-kəʊt, -kɑːt/ also **-cot** /-kɒt‖-kɑːt/ *n* a house built for doves to live in

Do·ver /ˈdəʊvəʳ/ a town in SE England on the Channel coast which is known as a port from which ships travel to and from France carrying passengers and goods. The port at Dover is below some high cliffs which can be seen from a distance and English people say that the first sight of **the white cliffs of Dover** is a sign that one is near home again after travelling. —see also WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER and —see colour map on page 818

dove·tail¹ /ˈdʌvteɪl/ *n* a join formed in wood with a shaped piece sticking out at the end of one piece fitting closely into a cut-out place in the other piece

dovetail² *v* **1** [T (TOGETHER)] to join (wood) by means of dovetails **2** [I;T (**with, into**)] to (cause to) fit skilfully or perfectly together: *I dovetailed my holiday arrangements with Joyce's so that there would always be one of us to run the shop.*

dow·a·ger /ˈdaʊəˌdʒəʳ/ *n* **1** *infml* a grand-looking rich old lady **2** a woman of high social class who has land or a title from her dead husband: *a dowager duchess*

dow·dy /ˈdaʊdi/ *adj* **1** (esp. of a woman) dressed in a dull and unattractive way **2** (of clothes) uninteresting and old-fashioned; not stylish: (fig.) *an attempt to jazz up the company's rather dowdy image* —**-dily** *adv* —**-diness** *n* [U]

Dow Jones /ˌdaʊ ˈdʒəʊnz◂/ also **Dow Jones Average** /ˌ· · ˈ··/, **Dow Jones In·dex** /ˌ· · ˈ··/ — *n* [*the*] a daily list of the relative prices of shares on the American STOCK EXCHANGE, based on the daily average prices of 30 industrial shares. The prices listed by Dow Jones are thought to show how the American STOCK MARKET in general is performing. —compare FINANCIAL TIMES INDEX

down¹ /daʊn/ *adv* **1** from above towards a lower place or position; to the floor, the ground, or the bottom: *The man bent down to kiss the child. | It gets cold quickly when the sun goes down. | The boy fell down and hurt himself. | The old lady was knocked down by a car. | She came down from her bedroom. | The telephone wires were blown down by the storm. | Put the cup down on the table. | We looked down at the sea from the top of the cliffs.* **2** in a low or lower than usual place or level: *down at the bottom of the sea | The river is down. | The telephone wires are down.| It's very early, and no one is down* (=downstairs) *yet.* **3** from standing to sitting, or sitting to lying: *Please sit down. | You may feel better if you go and lie down.* **4** in or into the body as a result of swallowing: *Can't you get the medicine down? | She's been very sick and she can't keep her food down.* **5** in or towards the south: *He's flying down to London from Scotland. | They live down south.* —compare UP¹ (4) **6** *BrE* away from a university, e.g. at the end of a course of study: *When is John* **coming down** *from Oxford|Harvard? | He was* **sent down** (=dismissed from the university) *for taking drugs.* **7** along; away from the person speaking: *Will you walk down to the library with me?* **8** (with verbs of fixing or fastening) firmly or tightly: *Have you stuck down the back of the envelope? | They closed the lid and nailed it down.* **9** on paper; in writing: *"Did you write|copy|mark|put down the telephone number?" "I have it down somewhere." | Please put my name down on the list. | I see she's down (on the programme) to give a talk about the marketing department.* **10** at or towards a lower level, e.g. of price or quantity: *Production has gone down this year.* (=we have produced less) | *This year's profits are well down on* (=when compared with) *last year's. | They wanted to charge £5000 for the car, but we managed to get them down|get the price down to £4500. | Everyone in the company, from the Managing Director down, will have to take a pay cut. | We're down to our last $5.* (=this is all the money we have left) **11** in or towards a lower or worse condition: *The military government had kept the people down for many years. | That family has certainly* **come down in the world.** (=moved to a lower social level) **12** (showing less noise, activity, strength, etc.): *Let the fire burn down. | Can you quieten the children down? | I wish you would turn the radio down* (=lower) *a bit. | They shouted the speaker down.* (=made him stop talking) **13** from the past: *These jewels have been passed|handed down in our family from mother to daughter for 300 years.* **14** into a smaller, lower, thinner, weaker, etc., state: *Boil it down. | This whisky's been watered down. | The heels of his shoes had worn down. | He got his report down to only three pages.* **15** (of money) to be paid at once in CASH: *You can buy this washing machine for $60 down and $10 a week for a year.* **16** to the moment of catching, getting, or discovering: *The men hunted the lion down. | The police ran the thief down. | We never succeeded in tracking that rumour down.* (=finding out where it came from) **17** from top to bottom: *He washed|hosed the car down.* **18 down to: a** to and including a lower degree or position in a set: *Everyone uses the firm's canteen, from the chairman down to the boy who sweeps the floors.* **b** the responsibility or fault of: *It's down to Tom whether he decides to pay. | The failure of the project is really down to bad management.* **19 down 'under** *infml* in or to Australia or New Zealand **20 down with** ill with: *Jane has gone|come down with a cold|with flu.* **21 Down with** ... (a shout used to show opposition) I/We don't want ... : *Down with the government!* —compare UP (16)

down² *adj* **1** [F] sad; in low spirits; DEPRESSED: *He was very down after losing his job.* **2** [A] directed or going down: *the down escalator|the down train* (=from London or any central place) **3** [F] behind an opponent (by): *He was down (by) two sets to one, but went on to win the tennis match.* **4** [F] *infml* finished; already dealt with: *eight down and two to go* **5** [F] *tech* (of computer systems) not in operation: *The computer is down now but should be back up in an hour.* — opposite **up** **6 down for** entered

on the list for (a race, school, etc.): *What subjects are you down for this term?* **7 down on** *infml* having and expressing a low opinion of: *Don't be so down on him.* —see also **be down on one's luck** (LUCK)

down[3] *prep* **1** to or in a lower place in; downwards by way of: *We ran down the hill.* | *The water poured down the pipe.* | *The bathroom is down those stairs.* **2** along; to or at the far end of: *He looked down the barrel of the gun.* | *They live just down the road.* **3** in the direction of the current of: *to go down the river* **4** *BrE nonstandard* to; down to: *I'm just going down the shops.*

down[4] *n* **1** (in FOOTBALL (2)) any of the four plays during which the team which has the ball tries to move it ten yards or more along the field towards the the GOAL: *It's third down and five yards to go (the team is making its third attempt to move the ball and has to move it five more yards to reach ten yards).* **2 have a down on someone** *infml* to have a low opinion of someone; dislike them — see also DOWNS, UPS AND DOWNS

down[5] *v* [T] **1** to knock or force to the ground: *The boxer downed his opponent in the third round.* **2** to swallow quickly (esp. a liquid): *He downed his coffee and left.* **3** *AmE* to defeat: *Our baseball team easily downed the opposition.* **4 down tools** to stop working, esp. suddenly and because one is unhappy or dissatisfied about something —compare STRIKE[1] (7), [2] (1)

down[6] *n* [U] fine soft feathers or hair, as on a young bird or a baby's head — **~y** *adj*

Down a former COUNTY of Northern Ireland

down- see WORD FORMATION

down-and-out /ˌ· · ˈ·◂/ *n, adj* **down-and-outs** *infml* (a person who is) suffering from lack of money, work, home, etc., and unable to change the situation

down-at-heel /ˌ· · ˈ·◂/ *adj* (of a person) dressed in old worn-out clothes whose condition suggests lack of money

down·beat /ˈdaʊnbiːt/ *adj infml* not showing strong, eager, or hopeful feelings; RESTRAINED —compare UPBEAT

down·cast /ˈdaʊnkɑːst‖-kæst/ *adj* **1** sad and discouraged; DEJECTED: *I felt a bit downcast when I failed my exam.* **2** directed downwards: *with downcast eyes*

down·court /ˈdaʊnˌkɔːt‖-ˌkɔːrt/ *adv, adj* in BASKETBALL, towards or in the side of the court in which a player can get a GOAL (**make a basket**): *Magic moves the ball downcourt, passing it to Byron Scott.*

down·er /ˈdaʊnəʳ/ *n sl* **1** a drug that reduces the activity of the mind and body —compare UPPER[2] **2** an experience, person, or situation that causes sadness or discouragement: *He's a real downer — he never does anything but complain.* **3 be on a downer** *infml* to be feeling low in spirits: *She's on a bit of a downer at the moment. She split up with her boyfriend a couple of weeks ago.*

down·fall /ˈdaʊnfɔːl/ *n* (something that causes) a sudden fall from a high position; ruin: *Drink and gambling brought about his downfall|were his downfall.* | *The scandal led to the downfall of the government.*

down·grade /ˈdaʊngreɪd, daʊnˈgreɪd‖ˈdaʊngreɪd/ *v* [T (**to**)] **1** to give a lower position to (an employed person) or lower level to (a job): *She was downgraded to assistant manager.* —opposite **upgrade** **2** *AmE* to make something seem unimportant: *The mayor downgraded the citizens' complaints, saying that other factors had to be considered first.*

down·heart·ed /ˌdaʊnˈhɑːtɨd◂‖-ɑːr-/ *adj* in low spirits; sad; DESPONDENT — **~ly** *adv*

down·hill /ˌdaʊnˈhɪl◂/ *adj, adv* **1** (sloping or going) towards the bottom of a hill: *running downhill* | *downhill skiing* [after *n*] *the path downhill* **2** *infml* (becoming) easier, esp. after a period of effort or difficulty: *The hardest part of the work is over — it's all downhill from now on.* **3 go downhill** to move towards a lower or worse state or level: *His work has been going downhill recently.*

Dow·ning Street /ˈdaʊnɪŋ striːt/ the government of Great Britain (from the name of the street in London which contains the official houses of the British **Prime Minister** (Number 10) and the **Chancellor of the Exchequer**, and the **British Foreign and Commonwealth Office**): *talks between Dublin and Downing Street* | *Mr Major's first months in Downing Street* (=as PRIME MINISTER) | *Downing Street reported a drop in the number of unemployed.* —see also NUMBER TEN and see colour picture on page 950

down·light·er /ˈdaʊnlaɪtəʳ/ *n* a light placed at a high level and directed downwards —compare UPLIGHTER

down·load /daʊnˈləʊd/ *v* [T] to move (information or PROGRAMS) from one computer system to another

down-mar·ket /ˌ· ˈ··◂/ *adj* being or using goods produced to meet the demand of the lower social groups —compare UP-MARKET

down pay·ment /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* a part of the full price paid at the time of buying something, with the rest to be paid later: *They saved up enough to make a down payment on a new lounge suite.* —compare DEPOSIT[2] (3)

down·play /ˌdaʊnˈpleɪ/ *v* [T] to make (something) seem less important than it really is; PLAY **down**: *Most of the newspaper reports downplayed the significance of this accident.*

down·pour /ˈdaʊnpɔːʳ/ *n* a heavy fall of rain —see RAIN (USAGE)

down·right[1] /ˈdaʊnraɪt/ *adv infml* (esp. of something bad) thoroughly; completely: *She wasn't just unfriendly, she was downright rude.*

downright[2] *adj* [A] *infml* **1** (esp. of something bad) thorough; complete: *a downright cheat* | *His comment was a downright insult.* **2** plain; direct; FORTHRIGHT: *a downright kind of man who says just what he thinks*

downs /daʊnz/ *n* [P] *BrE* (*often cap. as part of a name*) low rounded grassy hills, esp. chalk hills, as in the south of England: *the North|South Downs*

down·side /ˈdaʊnsaɪd/ *adj* (esp. in business) showing an expectation or likelihood of loss, disadvantage, or failure: *downside estimate of future sales* —opposite **upside** — **downside** *n* [S] : *The downside of the project is that some jobs will be lost.*

down·spout /ˈdaʊnspaʊt/ also **drainspout** *n AmE for* DRAINPIPE (2)

Down's syn·drome /ˈ· ˌ··/ also **mongolism** *now usu. taboo*— *n* [U] a condition which results in a baby being born with lower than average mental ability and having sloping eyes, a low forehead, and broad hands with short fingers. Down's syndrome is usu. caused by an additional CHROMOSOME being present in a baby. A mother is more likely to have a baby with Down's syndrome if she is over 35 years old.

down·stage /ˌdaʊnˈsteɪdʒ◂/ *adj, adv* towards or at the front of a theatrical stage: *The actor came downstage.* | *A battle was being acted downstage.* | *downstage action* — opposite **upstage**

down·stairs /ˌdaʊnˈsteəz◂‖-eərz◂/ *adv* on or to a lower floor and esp. the main or ground floor of a house: *to come downstairs* | *Is anyone downstairs?* —compare UPSTAIRS —**downstairs** *adj* [A] : *a downstairs bedroom* — **downstairs** *n* : *We haven't painted the downstairs yet.*

down·stream /ˌdaʊnˈstriːm◂/ *adj, adv* (moving) with the current, towards the mouth of a river, stream, etc.: *The boat drifted downstream.* —opposite **upstream**

down·time /ˈdaʊntaɪm/ *n* [U] **1** the time during which a machine, esp. a computer, is not operating **2** *AmE* time when a person is not working, esp. when they are resting or relaxing: *Everybody needs their downtime after a hard day's work.*

down-to-earth /ˌ· · ˈ·◂/ *adj apprec* practical and honest: *a down-to-earth approach to health care* | *She's very down-to-earth and will tell you what she really thinks.*

down·town[1] /ˌdaʊnˈtaʊn◂/ *adj, adv esp. AmE* to, towards, or in the business centre of a town or city: *to go downtown* | *downtown restaurants|offices* —compare UPTOWN, MIDTOWN

downtown[2] /ˈdaʊntaʊn/ *n AmE* the business center of a town or city: *City Hall has recently passed a proposal to improve street lighting in the city's downtown.*

down·trod·den /ˈdaʊnˌtrɒdn‖-ˌtrɑː-/ *adj esp. lit* treated badly or without respect by those in positions of power: *downtrodden workers*

down·turn /ˈdaʊntɜːn‖-tɜːrn/ *n* [(**in**)] a (usu. unwelcome) lessening of business activity, production, etc.: *A downturn in shipbuilding orders has meant the laying-off of hundreds of workers.* —*opposite* **upturn**

down un·der /ˌ· ˈ··/ *adv humor infml* in Australia or New

Zealand: *Conserving water is part of everyday life down under and most Australians re-use their domestic water in the garden.*

down·ward /ˈdaʊnwəd‖-wərd/ *adj* [A] going down: *a downward movement of the head | the downward trend of share prices* | (fig.) *the downward path to ruin* —opposite **upward**

down·wards /ˈdaʊnwədz‖-wərdz/ also **downward** *AmE*— *adv* **1** towards a lower level or position: *He looked downwards to avoid my eyes. | Everyone in the company had to take a pay cut, from the chairman downwards.* **2** with a particular side towards the ground or floor: *He lay face downwards.* —opposite **upwards** **3** from an earlier time: *downwards through the years*

down·wind /ˌdaʊnˈwɪnd◂/ *adj, adv* in the direction that the wind is moving

dow·ry /ˈdaʊəri/ *n* the property and money that a woman brings to her husband in marriage

dowse[1] /daʊs/ *v* [T] to DOUSE

dowse[2] /daʊz/ *v* [I] to DIVINE[2] (2)

dow·ser /ˈdaʊzəʳ/ *n* a DIVINER

doy·en /ˈdɔɪən/ **doy·enne** /dɔɪˈen/ *fem.*— *n* the oldest, longest-serving, or most experienced member of a group: *He was the doyen of sports commentators.*

Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan see CONAN DOYLE

doy·ley , doyly /ˈdɔɪli/ *n* a DOILY

doz. *n written abbrev. for* DOZEN

doze /dəʊz/ *v* [I] to sleep lightly or for a short time: *Grandfather was dozing in front of the television.* —**doze** *n* : *to have a little doze*

doze off also **drop off, nod off** *phr v* [I] to fall into a light sleep unintentionally: *The lecture was so boring that I dozed off in the middle of it.*

doz·en /ˈdʌzən/ *determiner, n* **dozen** *or* **dozens** **1** a group of 12: *a dozen eggs | These eggs are 40p a half dozen.* (=40p for six) – see TABLE 1 **2 dozens (and dozens) of** *infml* lots (and lots) of; very many: *I've been there dozens of times.* – see also BAKER'S DOZEN, **nineteen to the dozen** (NINETEEN)

doz·y /ˈdəʊzi/ *adj* **1** sleepy: *a dozy feeling|afternoon* **2** *BrE infml* stupid; slow in understanding: *a dozy boy* —**-ily** *adv* —**-iness** *n* [U]

DP /ˌdiː ˈpiː/ *abbrev. for* DATA PROCESSING: *the DP department*

D Phil /ˌdiː ˈfɪl/ *n* a PHD

DPP /ˌdiː piː ˈpiː/ *n* [*the*] *abbrev. for* DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

DQ /ˌdiː ˈkjuː/ *AmE infml abbrev. for* DAIRY QUEEN

Dr *written abbrev. for:* Doctor

drab[1] /dræb/ *adj* uninteresting; lacking brightness or colour; cheerless: *a drab green dress | Nothing ever brightened their drab lives.* —**~ly** *adv* —**~ness** *n* [U]

drab[2] *n old use derog* a dirty, untidy, and perhaps immoral woman

Drab·ble /ˈdræbəl/, **Margaret** (1939–) an English NOVELIST who is best known for her books about middle class women in modern life

drabs /dræbz/ *n* see DRIBS

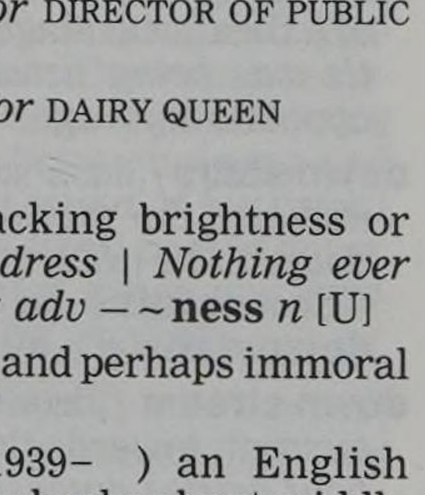
drachm /dræm/ *n* a DRAM (1)

drach·ma /ˈdrækmə/ *n* **-mas** *or* **-mae** /miː/ **1** the standard of money of modern Greece **2** an ancient Greek silver coin and weight

dra·co·ni·an /drəˈkəʊniən/ *adj* very severe or cruel; HARSH: *draconian measures|legislation to deal with the problem of street crime*

Drac·u·la /ˈdrækjʊ̯lə/ a frightening VAMPIRE who has FANGS (=long teeth) and wears a black CAPE and has become a well-known character in HORROR films and books (from the story of Count Dracula, written by the Irishman Bram Stoker in 1897): *He's got horrible sticky-out teeth. He looks just like Dracula.* —see also VAMPIRE

Dracula



draft[1] /drɑːft‖dræft/ *n* **1** [C] the first rough and incomplete form of something written, drawn, or planned: *I've made a first draft of my speech for Friday, but it still needs a lot of work. | a draft proposal for a new law | a plan still only in draft form* **2** [C] a written order for money to be paid by a bank, esp. from one bank to another: *a draft drawn on the Glasgow branch of our bank for £50 | to get money from Paris to Rome by (bank) draft* — compare CHEQUE **3 a** [*the*] *AmE for* CONSCRIPTION **b** [(*the*) U] *esp. AmE* a group of people chosen by CONSCRIPTION **4** [C] *AmE for* DRAUGHT **5** a system in some American sports in which PROFESSIONAL teams pick college players for their teams: *He's likely to be the number one draft choice for the Washington Redskins.*

draft[2] *v* [T] **1** to make a draft of: *to draft a letter to the bank manager* **2** [(**into**)] *AmE for* CONSCRIPT[1]

draft board /ˈ· ˌ·/ *n AmE* the committee which decides who will be drafted into the armed forces

draft dod·ger /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n AmE* a person who deliberately and illegally takes action to avoid military CONSCRIPTION —see also VIETNAM WAR, compare CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR

draft·ee /drɑːfˈtiː‖dræfˈtiː/ *n AmE for* CONSCRIPT[2]

drafts·man /ˈdrɑːftsmən‖ˈdræfts-/ **drafts·wom·an** /-wʊmən/ *fem.*— *n* **-men** /mən/ **1** a person who puts a suggested law or a new law into proper words **2** *AmE for* DRAUGHTSMAN (1) **3** *esp. AmE for* DRAUGHTSMAN (2)

draft·y /ˈdrɑːfti‖ˈdræfti/ *adj AmE for* DRAUGHTY

drag[1] /dræg/ *v* **-gg-** **1** [T] to pull (something heavy) along with great effort: *dragging a great branch along | The protesters were dragged away by the police.* | (fig.) *Why must you drag me out to a concert on a cold night like this?* **2** [I (ALONG)] to move along while touching the ground: *The bottom of her long dress dragged (along) in the dust.* **3** [I] to move along too slowly or with difficulty: *He dragged behind the others. | The play dragged a bit in the third act.* **4** [T (**for**)] to look for something by pulling a heavy net along the bottom of (water): *They're dragging the river for the body of the missing girl.* **5 drag one's feet/heels** *infml* to act intentionally in a slow or ineffective way

~drag sbdy. ↔ **down** *phr v* [T] to cause to feel ill or low in spirits: *His unhappy marriage seems to be dragging him down.*

drag sthg. ↔ **in** *phr v* [T] to introduce (something or someone unconnected with the main subject): *John and Mary were having an argument and I got dragged in. | He's always dragging politics into his conversation.*

drag on *phr v* [I] to continue for an unreasonable length of time: *The meeting dragged on for hours. | Their unhappy marriage dragged on because of family pressures.*

drag out *phr v* [I;T (=**drag** sthg. ↔ **out**)] to (cause to) last an unnecessarily long time: *They dragged out the meeting with long speeches.*

drag sbdy./sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] *infml* **1** to draw attention to (a usu. unpleasant subject or event that has been generally forgotten about) unnecessarily: *The newspapers keep dragging up the mistake he made ten years ago.* **2** *BrE* to bring up (a child) badly, esp. without good manners

drag[2] *n* **1** [C;U] the action or an act of dragging **2** [C (**on, upon**)] something or someone that makes it harder to advance towards a desired end: *He felt that his family was a drag on his success.* **3** [S] *sl* something or someone that is unexciting and uninteresting: *The party was a drag, so we left early. | Don't be such a drag! | "We've got all these envelopes to address." "What a drag!"* **4** [C] *sl* an act of breathing in cigarette smoke: *He took a long drag on his cigar.* **5** [U] *sl* the clothing of one sex worn by the other: *in drag | a drag act* (=a performance in which a man is dressed as a woman or a woman as a man) | *a drag queen* **6** [S;U] the force of the air that acts against the forward movement of an aircraft or vehicle **7** [C *usu. sing.*] *AmE sl* a street or road: *the main drag*

drag·gled /ˈdrægəld/ *adj* BEDRAGGLED

drag·gy /ˈdrægi/ *adj infml* unpleasantly dull

drag·net /ˈdrægnet/ *n* **1** a net that is pulled along the bottom of a river or lake, to bring up anything that may lie there **2** a system of connected actions and methods for catching criminals

Dragnet an American television show which was based

on the activities of the Los Angeles police. The main character, Joe Friday, is famous for saying "Just the facts, m'am."

drag·o·man /ˈdrægəmən, -gəʊ-/ *n* **-mans** (in some countries of the Middle East, esp. formerly) a person who is a guide and translator

dragon



drag·on /ˈdrægən/ *n* **1** a large imaginary animal with wings and the power to breathe out fire **2** *infml* a fierce bad-tempered old woman: *We were really frightened of the maths teacher. She was a real dragon.* —see also **chase the dragon** (CHASE[1] (5))

drag·on·fly /ˈdrægənflaɪ/ *n* a large brightly-coloured insect with a long thin body and large thin wings —see picture at INSECT

dra·goon[1] /drəˈguːn/ *n* a member of a European army group formerly consisting of heavily armed soldiers on horseback

dragoon[2] *v*

dragoon sbdy. **into** sthg. *phr v* [T] to force into doing something by violent measures, threats, or other pressures: (fig.) *I was dragooned into helping with the children's party.*

drag queen /ˈ· ˌ·/ *n* a HOMOSEXUAL man who dresses as a woman

drag race /ˈ· ˌ·/ *n AmE* a short car race which is won by the car which can ACCELERATE fastest from being stopped. Many TEENAGERS enter drag races illegally, often in stolen cars.

drag·ster /ˈdrægstəʳ/ *n* a car used in DRAG racing which is long, narrow, and low to the ground

drain[1] /dreɪn/ *v* [I;T] **1** [(AWAY, OFF, OUT)] to (cause to) flow off gradually or completely: *to drain all the oil from|out of the engine | Boil the vegetables for 20 minutes then drain off the water. | The rainwater drained off|away.* | (fig.) *These children drain my energy!* | (fig.) *This country is being drained of its best doctors.* | (fig.) *The old lady's strength is draining away.* **2** [(OFF, **of**)] to (cause to) become gradually dry, as water or other liquid is removed: *to drain a field|a flooded mine | Let the wet glasses drain a bit before you dry them up. | She was so afraid|angry that her face was drained of blood. | She drained her glass* (=drank all the contents) *and asked for more water.* | (fig.) *I feel drained of emotion.*

drain[2] *n* **1** [C] (the GRATING over) a means of draining, such as a ditch or underground pipe that carries waste water away: *The drains overflowed after the heavy rain.| Don't pour those tea leaves down the drain – you'll block the sink.* —see picture at HOUSE **2** [S (**on**)] something that empties or uses up: *All this spending is a drain on my savings.* **3 down the drain** *infml* wasted; brought to nothing: *The results of years of work went down the drain.* — see also BRAIN DRAIN, **laugh like a drain** (LAUGH[1] (7))

drain·age /ˈdreɪnɪdʒ/ *n* [U] a system or means for draining, such as a pipe or ditch: *This soil has good drainage. | drainage channels*

draining board /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a slightly sloping board with GROOVES in the surface, on which wet dishes are placed after washing so that the water will run off them —see picture at KITCHEN

drain·pipe /ˈdreɪnpaɪp/ *n* **1** a pipe that carries waste water away from buildings **2** also **downspout, drainspout** *AmE*– a pipe that carries rain water from the roof of a building into a DRAIN —see picture at HOUSE

drainpipe trou·sers /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [P] *BrE infml* tight-fitting trousers with narrow legs, esp. as worn in Britain in the 1950s by TEDDY BOYS

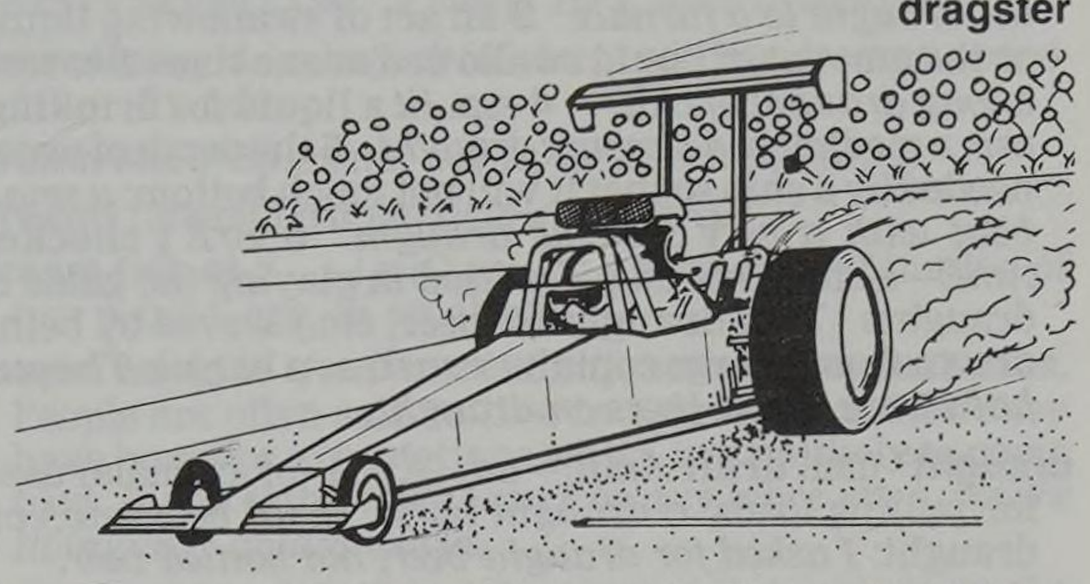
drake /dreɪk/ *n* a male duck —see also DUCKS AND DRAKES

Sir Francis Drake



Drake, Sir Francis (1540–96) an English NAVIGATOR who was the first Englishman to sail around the world and who led the English navy to victory against the **Spanish Armada**. There is a popular belief that Drake was very calm when he first saw the ships of the Spanish Armada and completed the game of BOWLS he was playing in Plymouth before preparing to fight.

dragster



dram /dræm/ *n* **1** also **drachm**– a small unit of weight or of liquid – see TABLE 2 **2** *infml* a small alcoholic drink, usu. WHISKY. This word is usu. used in speech rather than writing and its use in the Scottish expression "a wee dram" is widely known.

dra·ma /ˈdrɑːmə‖ˈdrɑːmə, ˈdræmə/ *n* **1** [C] a piece of writing to be performed by actors; play for the theatre, television, radio, etc. **2** [U] plays considered as a form of literature: *the themes of contemporary British drama | the drama of Shakespeare* **3** [C;U] an exciting and unusual situation or set of events: *Their holidays are always full of drama. | There was high drama at the airport when news of the hijack came through.*

dra·mat·ic /drəˈmætɪk/ *adj* **1** [*no comp.*] connected with drama or the theatre: *a dramatic production* **2** exciting and unusual, like something that could happen in a drama: *his dramatic escape from the prison camp | The conversation stopped when she made her dramatic entrance. | He made a dramatic recovery.* — **~ally** /kli/ *adv*

dramatic i·ron·y /ˌ·ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n* [U] a method used in drama by which the people watching the play can see a different meaning in the words spoken because they know information which the characters in the play do not know

dra·mat·ics /drəˈmætɪks/ *n* **1** [U] the study or practice of theatrical skills such as acting **2** [P] *often derog* behaviour that shows too much feeling; HISTRIONICS

dram·a·tis per·so·nae /ˌdræmətɪs pɜːˈsəʊnaɪ, pəˈsəʊniː‖ -pərˈsəʊniː/ *n* [(*the*) P] *Lat* the characters or actors in a play

dram·a·tist /ˈdræmətɪst/ *n* a writer of plays, esp. serious ones; PLAYWRIGHT

dram·a·tize also **-tise** *BrE* /ˈdræmətaɪz/ *v* **1** [T] to change (a book, report, etc.) so that it can be performed as a play: *He's dramatizing his novel for television.* **2** [I;T] *derog* to present (something) in a (too) dramatic way: *Don't dramatize (the events) – just give us the facts!* —**-tization** /ˌdræmətaɪˈzeɪʃən‖-mətə-/ *n* [C;U]

Dram·bu·ie /dræmˈbjuːi/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a strong alcoholic drink made with WHISKY, usu. drunk in a small glass after a meal

drank /dræŋk/ *past tense of* DRINK[1]

drape[1] /dreɪp/ *v* [T] **1** to cover or decorate (as if) with folds of cloth: [+*obj*+**over, round**] *They draped the flag over|round the coffin.* [+*obj*+**in, with**] *They draped the coffin in|with the flag.* **2** [(**over, (a)round**)] to cause to hang loosely and carelessly: *He draped his legs over the arm of the chair.* —see SPREAD (USAGE)

drape[2] *n* [*usu. sing.*] the way cloth is arranged or clothing is cut —see also DRAPES

drap·er /ˈdreɪpəʳ/ *n BrE, becoming rare* a person who sells cloth, curtains, sewing materials, etc.

drap·er·y /ˈdreɪpəri/ *n* **1** [U] *BrE* ‖ **dry goods** *AmE*— the trade of or goods sold by a draper: *the drapery department of the store* **2** [C;U] cloth arranged in folds: *a photograph taken against a background of drapery*

drapes /dreɪps/ also **drap·er·ies** /ˈdreɪpəriz/ *n* [P] *AmE* curtains, esp. long, thick curtains

dras·tic /ˈdræstɪk/ *adj* strong, sudden, and often violent and severe: *Drastic measures|changes are needed to improve the performance of the company.* —~**ally** /kli/ *adv* : *His work has changed drastically since his illness.*

drat /dræt/ *v* **-tt-** [T] *old-fash sl* (used to show annoyance) DAMN: *Drat it! I forgot my keys!* | *Drat!* | *Drat you! You're ten minutes late!* | *Stop that dratted noise!*

draught[1] usu. **draft** *AmE* /drɑːft‖dræft/ *n* **1** a current of cold air flowing through a room: *You'll catch cold if you sit in a draught.* **2** the flow of air to a fire: *to increase the draught to a furnace* **3** an act of swallowing liquid or the amount of liquid swallowed at one time: *She took a long draught of cider.* **4** *esp. lit* a liquid for drinking, esp. a medicine: *a sleeping draught* **5** the depth of water needed by a ship so that it will not touch bottom: *a small boat with a very shallow draught* **6** *BrE* ‖ **checker** *AmE*— a small round piece used in playing the game of draughts **7 on draught** (of beer, etc.) served by being drawn from a large container such as a barrel: *The pub has several good beers on draught.*

draught[2] usu. **draft** *AmE* — *adj* [A] **1** (of animals) used for pulling loads: *a draught horse* **2** (of beer, etc.) on draught: *I asked for draught beer, not bottled beer.*

draughts /drɑːfts‖dræfts/ *BrE* ‖ **checkers** *AmE*— *n* [U] a game played by two people, each with 12 round pieces, on a board of 64 squares (**draughtboard** *BrE* ‖ **checkerboard** *AmE*)

draughts·man *esp. BrE* ‖ **drafts-** *esp. AmE* /ˈdrɑːfts mən‖ˈdræfts-/ **draughts·wom·an** /-ˌwʊmən/ *fem.*— *n* **-men** /mən/ **1** a person who makes drawings of all the parts of a new building or machine that is being planned **2** a person who draws well

draughty /ˈdrɑːfti‖ˈdræfti/ *adj* with cold currents of air blowing through: *a draughty bedroom*

Dra·vid·i·an /drəˈvɪdiən/ *n* belonging to a group of related languages spoken in S India and N Sri Lanka: *Tamil is a Dravidian language.*

draw[1] /drɔː/ *v* **drew** /druː/, **drawn** /drɔːn/ **1** [I;T] to make (pictures), or make a picture of (something), with a pencil or pen: *Jane draws very well.* | *to draw a line|a map* | *He drew a portrait|his house.* | *Draw a circle and write your name in it.* | (fig.) *Shakespeare draws his characters well.* —compare WRITE[1] (1) **2** [T] to cause to come, go, or move by pulling: *The horse drew the cart up the hill.* | *a plough drawn by oxen* | *to draw the curtains* (=to open or close them by pulling) | *She drew the doctor aside* (=led him to a place where private conversation was possible) *to discuss her mother's health.* | (fig.) *Don't let yourself get drawn into their argument.* **3** [T (OUT)] to take or pull out: *to draw water from the well* | *to draw a nail|a tooth* | *He suddenly drew a knife|a gun (out of his pocket) and threatened me with it.* | *I drew (out) £100 from my bank account today.* | *He dodged, but the knife nicked him and* **drew blood** *from his arm.* **4** [T] to receive or earn; be given: *to draw a winning card|number* | *They draw their wages every Friday.* **5** [T] **a** to cause to come; attract: *I feel drawn towards him.* | *The play is drawing big crowds.*| *Her shouts* **drew the attention of** *the police.* **b** [+ *obj* + *adv|prep*] to gather or obtain from the stated place or person: *The party draws most of its support from the industrial areas.* | *They drew courage from his example.* **6** [I+*adv|prep*] *esp. lit* to move or go steadily or gradually: *Winter is drawing near.* | *The car drew ahead of the others.* | *The bus drew in (to the side of the road) to let the car past.* | *The train drew into|out of the station.* | *Her life was drawing to an end.* | (fig.) *The two political parties are drawing further apart.* **7** [I;T] to end (a game, competition, etc.) without either side winning: *They drew (the match) five all.* (=five points each) | *a drawn game* —compare TIE[1] (5) **8** [T] to take (breath) in: *She drew a deep breath and then continued.* | *They stopped to* **draw breath** (=to slow down their breathing) *at the top of the hill.* | (fig.) *I didn't have time to draw breath* (=I was very busy) *this morning.* **9** [I] to produce or allow a current of air, esp. to make a fire burn better: *The chimney isn't drawing very well.* **10** [T] to get or form by the use of reason or information: *to draw a comparison* | *What conclusion did you draw from their statement?* | *It's important to draw a distinction between the two ideas.* **11** [T] to remove the bowels from: *to draw a chicken* **12** [T (**on**)] to use for taking money out of a bank: *to draw a cheque on one's bank account* **13** [T] *tech* (of a ship) to need (a stated depth of water) in order to float: *The boat draws a metre of water.* **14** [T] to bend (a BOW[3]) by pulling back the string, ready to shoot an ARROW **15 draw a blank** *infml* to be unsuccessful, esp. in an attempt to find information or the answer to a problem **16 draw the line (at)** to fix a limit beyond which one will not do or agree to (something): *Of course I want to help you, but I draw the line at lying.* —see also **at daggers drawn** (DAGGER (3)), **draw a veil over something** (VEIL[1] (3))

draw back *phr v* [I (**from**)] **1** to move oneself away: *The crowd drew back in terror as the building crashed to the ground.* **2** to be unwilling to consider or agree to something: *The firm drew back from making an immediate commitment.* —see also DRAWBACK

draw for sthg. *phr v* [T+*obj|wh-*] to choose or make a decision by picking one of a number of objects, marked pieces of paper, etc.; draw LOTS for: *Let's draw for the right to go first|for who will go first.*

draw in *phr v* [I] to have fewer hours of daylight; close in: *In autumn the days begin to draw in.* —opposite **draw out** —see also **draw in one's horns** (HORN)

draw sthg. ↔ **off** *phr v* [T] to allow to flow out: *to draw off some water from the radiator*

draw on *phr v* **1** [I] to come near in time; APPROACH: *Winter is drawing on.* **2** [T] (**draw on** sbdy./sthg.) to make use of a supply of (esp. money): *I'll have to draw on my savings to pay for the repairs.* | *A writer has to draw on his imagination and experience.* **3** [T] (**draw on** sthg.) to breathe in smoke from: *He drew on his pipe|cigarette.*

draw out *phr v* **1** [T] (**draw** sthg. ↔ **out**) to cause to stretch in time, perhaps unnecessarily; PROLONG: *The question and answer session drew the meeting out for a further two hours.* | *a long-drawn-out debate* **2** [I] to have more hours of daylight: *The days are drawing out now that it's spring.* —opposite **draw in** **3** [T] (**draw** sbdy. ↔ **out**) to make (someone) feel more willing to speak freely or openly; BRING **out:** *She's very shy but he managed to draw her out.*

draw up *phr v* **1** [T] (**draw** sthg. ↔ **up**) to prepare and usu. put into written form; DRAFT: *to draw up a plan|a contract|a list of candidates* **2** [I] (of a vehicle) to arrive at a certain point and stop: *The car drew up (at the gate) and three men got out.* **3** [T *often pass.*] (**draw** sbdy. ↔ **up**) to place in prepared order: *The soldiers were drawn up outside the palace.* **4 draw oneself up** to make oneself stand straight, often proudly: *He drew himself up to his full height.*

draw[2] *n* **1** a result with neither side winning: *The game ended in a draw.* **2** the choosing of winning tickets in a LOTTERY: *He picked a winning number on the first draw.*| *He won and I lost:* **that's the luck of the draw.** —compare RAFFLE[1] **3** a person, thing, or event that attracts esp. a paying public: *The new singer is a big draw.* **4 quick/fast on the draw** *infml* quick at pulling out a hand gun: (fig.) *When she was interviewed, she was very quick on the draw.* (=quick at answering questions)

draw·back /ˈdrɔːbæk/ *n* a difficulty or disadvantage; something that can cause trouble: *The only drawback of the plan is that it costs too much.* | *The high cost is a major drawback.* —see also DRAW **back**

draw·bridge /ˈdrɔːˌbrɪdʒ/ *n* (in former times) a bridge that can be pulled up to let ships pass, to protect a castle from attack, etc.

drawer[1] /drɔːʳ/ *n* a sliding boxlike container with an open top used for storing clothes, STATIONERY, etc., which fits into a table, desk, cupboard, or CHEST OF DRAWERS and which is opened by pulling out and closed by pushing in: *The paper is in my desk drawer.* —see also BOTTOM DRAWER, TOP DRAWER, and see picture at KITCHEN

draw·er[2] /ˈdrɔːəʳ/ *n* a person who draws

drawers /drɔːz‖drɔːrz/ *n* [P] *old use for* KNICKERS —see PAIR (USAGE)

draw·ing /ˈdrɔːɪŋ/ *n* **1** [U] the art of making pictures or representing objects, plans, etc. with a pen or pencil **2** [C] a picture made by drawing: *a drawing of a cat* —see also LINE DRAWING

drawing board /ˈ·· ·/ *n* **1** a flat piece of wood on which paper is laid to draw on; used esp. by artists and GRAPHIC DESIGNERS **2 go back to the drawing board** *infml* to start again after one's first attempt has failed

drawing pin /ˈ·· ·/ *BrE* ‖ **thumbtack** *AmE*– *n* a short pin with a broad flat head, used esp. for putting notices on boards or walls —see picture at PIN

drawing room /ˈ·· ·/ *n* **1** *fml for* LIVING ROOM. Many British upper class families use this word to describe the main room in their home. —compare SITTING ROOM, FRONT ROOM **2** *AmE* a private room in a railway train, in which three people can sleep

drawl /drɔːl/ *v* [I;T (OUT)] to speak or say slowly, with vowels greatly lengthened —**drawl** *n* : *She speaks with a Southern drawl.*

drawn[1] /drɔːn/ *past participle of* DRAW[1]

drawn[2] *adj* **1** (esp. of the face) changed as if by pulling or stretching: *a face drawn with sorrow/exhaustion* **2** (of games, competitions, etc.) ended with neither side winning: *a drawn match*

draw·string /ˈdrɔːˌstrɪŋ/ *n* [*often pl.*] a string or cord that can be pulled tighter or looser to tie up bags, etc.

dray /dreɪ/ *n* a flat four-wheeled cart for carrying heavy loads, esp. barrels of beer

Dr. Bar·nar·do's /ˌdɒktə bəˈnɑːdəʊz‖ˌdɑːktər bərˈnɑːr-/ see BARNARDO HOMES

dread[1] /dred/ *v* [T] to feel great fear or anxiety about: *I'm just dreading this exam.* [+*to-v*] *I* **dread to think** *what will happen if she finds out.* [+*v-ing*] *She dreaded having to meet his parents.* [+(*that*)] *He dreaded that his parents would find out.* | *the dreaded day*

dread[2] *n* [S;U (**of**)] (a) great fear or anxiety: *They* **live in dread of** *being caught.*

dread[3] *adj* [A] *lit* causing great fear or anxiety: *God's dread judgment*

dread·ful /ˈdredfəl/ *adj* **1** causing great fear or anxiety; terrible: *the dreadful news of the accident* | *in dreadful pain* **2** *infml* very unpleasant or unenjoyable; bad: *What a dreadful noise!* | *The play last night was just dreadful.* —see also PENNY DREADFUL — ~**ness** *n* [U]

dread·ful·ly /ˈdredfəli/ *adv infml* extremely; used before words with unpleasant meanings: *I'm dreadfully sorry.*| *She looks dreadfully tired.*

dread·locks /ˈdredlɒks‖-lɑːks/ *n* [P] a hairstyle consisting of thick lengths of twisted hair, often worn by male RASTAFARIANS or by young people who consider it to be a fashionable style: *a young Rasta man with dreadlocks*

dread·nought /ˈdrednɔːt/ *n* a type of BATTLESHIP used at the beginning of the 20th century

dream[1] /driːm/ *n* **1** a group of related thoughts, images, or feelings experienced during sleep: *I had a strange dream about my mother last night.* **2** a group of thoughts, images, or feelings like these, experienced when the mind is not completely under conscious control; DAYDREAM **3** [*usu. sing.*] a state of mind in which one does not pay much attention to the real world: *John lives* **in a dream.** **4** something that one thinks about and hopes for; ASPIRATION: *It was his dream to sail his boat around the world.* | *The band's record was successful* **beyond their wildest dreams.** (=more successful than they had hoped or expected) | *Meeting the princess was (like)* **a dream come true.** **5** *infml* a very beautiful, excellent, or enjoyable thing or person: *Their new house is a real dream.* | *The car goes like a dream.* **6 I have a dream**...*quote* the first words of a speech by Martin Luther King, in which he expressed his hopes for the future of black people —see also Martin Luther KING

dream[2] *v* **dreamed** *or* **dreamt** /dremt/ [I (**of, about**); T+*obj*/(*that*)] **1** to have (a dream) (about something): *Do you dream at night?* | *"What did you dream about?" "I dreamt (that) I was flying to the moon."* **2** to imagine (something): *I never said that! You must have been dreaming/You must have dreamt it!* | *I never dreamt that such a thing could happen!* **3 not dream of** *infml* not consider; not be able to, esp. for moral reasons: *I wouldn't dream of letting the children do that!*

dream sthg. ↔ **away** *phr v* [T] to spend (time) in dreaming or inactivity: *to dream away the hours*

dream sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] *sl, often derog* to invent (esp. something unusual or silly): *They can always dream up some new excuse for the train arriving late.*

dream·boat /ˈdriːmbəʊt/ *n sl* **1** a very attractive person of the opposite sex **2** *BrE* someone who knows he or she is attractive and is proud of it

dream·er /ˈdriːməʳ/ *n* **1** a person who dreams **2** a person who has impractical ideas or plans **3** a person who is not very good at what they are doing because they are always thinking about something else

dream·ing /ˈdriːmɪŋ/ also **dream·time** /ˈdriːmtaɪm/ *n* [U] the time, according to old Australian Aborigine stories, when the first ANCESTORS were created

dreaming spires /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* [P] *quote* a phrase from a poem by Matthew Arnold, which people use to suggest the beauty of Oxford, the English university town

dream·land /ˈdriːmlænd/ *n* **1** [C;U] a beautiful and happy place that exists only in one's imagination —compare NEVER-NEVER LAND **2** sleep: *He's off to dreamland.*

dream·less /ˈdriːmləs/ *adj* (of sleep) without dreams; peaceful — ~**ly** *adv*

dream·like /ˈdriːmlaɪk/ *adj* as in a dream; unreal

dreamt /dremt/ *past participle of* DREAM[2]

dream tick·et /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* [C *usu.* S] a perfect combination of two people, esp. in an election

dream world /ˈ· ·/ *n* a world of impractical or unreal ideas. People are often said **to live in a dream world** if they have hopes or expectations which are unlikely to come true: *If you think there won't be any more wars, you're living in a dream world.*

dream·y /ˈdriːmi/ *adj* **1** (of a person) living more in the imagination than in the real world **2** peaceful and beautiful; not clear, sharp, or exact: *soft dreamy music* | *The misty scene had a dreamy quality about it.* **3** *sl* wonderful; desirable; beautiful: *Isn't that dress dreamy!* —**-ily** *adv* —**-iness** *n* [U]

drear /drɪəʳ/ *adj poet* dreary

drear·y /ˈdrɪəri/ *adj* **1** sad or cheerless; GLOOMY: *a dreary November day, cold and without sunshine* **2** *infml* dull; uninteresting: *Addressing envelopes is dreary work.* —**-ily** *adv* —**-iness** *n* [U]

dredge[1] /dredʒ/ *v* [I;T (**for**)] to use a dredger in, on, or for (something): *They are dredging (the lake) for the dead body.* | *Can we dredge the harbour to make it deeper?*

dredge sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] **1** to bring to the surface of water, esp. using a dredger **2** *infml* to bring to notice (something unpleasant from the past that has been forgotten about): *to dredge up an old quarrel/an old scandal*

dredge[2] *v* [T] to cover (food) lightly by scattering (something powdery) over it: *to dredge a fish with flour* | *cakes dredged in icing sugar* —see SPREAD (USAGE)

dredg·er /ˈdredʒəʳ/ also **dredge** *n* a machine or ship used for digging or sucking up mud and sand from the bottom of a river, etc.

Dred Scott Case /ˌdred ˈskɒt ˌkeɪs‖-ˈskɑːt-/ also **Dred Scott de·ci·sion** /ˌ· ˈ· ·ˌ··/ *n* a decision by the US SUPREME COURT in 1857 that a black person could not be a US citizen and thus could not bring a LAWSUIT (=a legal case against someone) in a US court

►CULTURAL NOTE The case was brought to the Supreme Court by a slave named Dred Scott, who claimed that because he had once lived in a state which did not allow slavery he should be a free man and not a slave. As well as declaring that Scott could not be a citizen, the CHIEF JUSTICE said that CONGRESS could not disallow slavery in any state. The decision made Congress, ABOLITIONISTS, and many other people very angry and was one of the major causes of the CIVIL WAR.◄

Dreft /dreft/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a type of WASHING POWDER made by Procter & Gamble Limited

dregs /dregz/ *n* [P] small pieces of solid material that sink to the bottom of a liquid and are thrown away: *coffee dregs* | (fig.) *Murderers and drug dealers are* **the dregs** (=most worthless part) **of society.** —compare LEES

Drei·ser /ˈdraɪsəʳ/, **The·o·dore** /ˈθiːədɔːʳ/ (1871–1945) an American writer who wrote *Sister Carrie* and *An American Tragedy*

drench /drentʃ/ *v* [T (**to, with**) *often pass.*] to make (usu. people, animals, or clothes) thoroughly wet: *I went out without my umbrella and got drenched to the skin!* | *a drenching rain* | *drenched in/with sweat* —see also SUNDRENCHED

Dres·den /ˈdrezdən/ a city in E Germany known for its CHINA industry, and for being destroyed by bombing in 1945. When people want to give an idea of something delicate and beautiful but easily damaged they sometimes mention a Dresden SHEPHERDESS (a china model of a girl who looks after sheep)

dress[1] /dres/ *v* **1** [I;T] to put clothes on (oneself or someone else): *I'll be ready in a moment; I'm just dressing/getting dressed.* | *Could you dress the baby for me?* —see USAGE **2** [I;T *often pass.*; *not in progressive forms*] to provide (oneself or someone else) with clothes of the stated type: *She dresses well on very little money.* | *He was neatly/informally/immaculately dressed.* | *an old lady dressed in black* | *They were* **dressed in their Sunday best.** (=best clothes) | *She went to the party dressed as a nun.* **3** [I] to put on formal clothes for the evening: *You are expected to dress for dinner in this hotel.* **4** [T] to make or choose clothes for: *The princess is dressed by a famous dress designer.* **5** [T] to clean and put medicine and a protective covering on (a wound) **6** [T] to prepare for use, esp. to prepare for cooking or eating: *He dressed the salad with oil and vinegar.* | *to dress birds for the market* (=clean them and remove the feathers) | (*tech*) *to dress the ground for planting, by spreading fertilizer* | (*tech*) *dressed* (=cut and shaped) *stones for building* **7** [T] **a** to arrange (the hair) by combing, brushing, curling, etc. **b** to arrange goods to be shown publicly in (e.g. a shop window) **8** [I;T] *tech* to form or cause (soldiers) to form a straight line: *Officer, dress those men to the right!* | *Soldiers, dress right!* **9 dressed (up) to kill** *infml* wearing very bright fashionable clothes **10 dressed (up) to the nines** *infml* wearing one's best and most formal clothes **11 all dressed up and nowhere to go** *humor* a phrase used when someone seems dressed in their best clothes for no clear reason

▷ USAGE Compare **dress, put on,** and **wear.** You can **put on** any article of clothing: *She* **put on** *a woolly scarf before she went out.* When you **put on** all your clothes you can say **dress** (rather literary) or **get dressed:** *I got up and* **put on** *my clothes*/**dressed**/**got dressed.** **Wear** means "to have (clothes) on" and is usually used to describe someone's habits or appearance: *She always* **wears** *black.* | *I'll be* **wearing** *a red coat.* Here you can also use **dress in** and **be dressed in:** *She always* **dresses in black.** | *I'll be* **dressed in** *a red coat.*◁

dress sbdy. ↔ **down** *phr v* [T] to attack angrily in words (someone who has done something wrong); TELL **off** —**dressing-down** /ˌ·· ˈ·/ *n* : *The naughty children got a good dressing-down.*

dress up *phr v* **1** [I (**as, in**)] (usu. of children) to wear someone else's clothes for fun and pretence: *to dress up as an astronaut* | *The little girl likes dressing up (in her mother's clothes).* **2** [I] to put on formal clothes or one's best clothes: *Don't bother to dress up for the party.* | *She's* **all dressed up and nowhere to go.** (an old saying) **3** [T (**as, in**)] (**dress** sbdy./sthg. ↔ **up**) to make (something or someone) seem different or more attractive: *He dressed the facts up to make them more interesting.*

dress[2] *n* **1** [C] an article of clothing for a woman or girl, with or without SLEEVES, that covers the body from shoulder to knee or below —compare SKIRT[1] (1) **2** [U] (*in comb.*) clothing of the stated kind: *national dress* | *actors wearing period dress* (=the clothes of another age) | *Do we have to wear* **evening dress** *for this party?* —see also FULL DRESS, MORNING DRESS; see CLOTHES (USAGE)

dress[3] *adj* [A *no comp.*] **1** of or used for a dress: *dress material* **2** (of clothing) suitable for a formal occasion: *a dress shirt/suit* **3** (of an occasion) at which formal or special clothes are worn —see also DRESS CIRCLE, DRESS REHEARSAL

dres·sage /ˈdresɑːʒ‖drɪˈsɑːʒ/ *n* [U] the performance by a trained horse of various actions as a result of slight movements by the rider

dress cir·cle /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* the first or lowest curved row of raised seats in a theatre

dress·er /ˈdresəʳ/ *n* **1** *esp. BrE* a piece of furniture for holding dishes and other articles used in eating, with open shelves above and cupboards below **2** *AmE* a CHEST OF DRAWERS, used esp. for clothing, often with a mirror on top **3** a person who looks after clothes in the theatre and helps actors to dress **4** someone who dresses in the stated way: *a fashionable/snappy/sloppy dresser*

dress·ing /ˈdresɪŋ/ *n* **1** [U] the act of a person who dresses: *Dressing is difficult for her since her accident.* **2** [C] material used to cover a wound: *to put on a clean dressing* **3** [C;U] a usu. liquid mixture for adding to a dish, esp. a SALAD: *a* **French dressing** **4** [U] *AmE for* STUFFING (2) —see also SALAD DRESSING, WINDOW DRESSING

dressing gown /ˈ·· ·/ ‖**bathrobe** *AmE*— *n esp. BrE* a garment rather like a long loose coat, worn indoors when a person is not fully dressed, esp. after getting up in the morning —see also BATHROBE

dressing room /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a room used for dressing, esp. in a theatre

dressing ta·ble /ˈ·· ˌ··/ also **vanity table** *AmE*— *n* a low table with a mirror, usu. in a bedroom, at which one sits to arrange one's hair, etc.

dress·mak·er /ˈdresˌmeɪkəʳ/ *n* a person, usu. a woman, who makes clothes according to customers' specific requests. Few people now have their clothes made by dressmakers as it is much more expensive than buying them OFF-THE-PEG (ready-made). —compare TAILOR[1] —**-making** *n* [U]

dress re·hears·al /ˈ· ·ˌ··/ *n* the last REHEARSAL (=practice performance) of a play when the actors wear the special clothes prepared for public performance of the play

dress sense /ˈ· ˌ·/ *n* [U] a knowledge of or skill with clothes; an ability to make oneself attractive and presentable: *She's got no/a good dress sense.*

dress·y /ˈdresi/ *adj* **1** (of clothes) for formal, not ordinary, wear **2** *sometimes derog* (of a person) fashionable in dress

drew /druː/ *past tense of* DRAW[1]

Drew, Nan·cy /ˈnænsi/ a character in children's books who is a DETECTIVE and finds the answer to mysteries (MYSTERY[4]). The popular set of books is by Carolyn Keene, the American writer.

Drey·fus /ˈdreɪfəs/, **Al·fred** /ˈælfrɨd/ (1859–1935) a French army officer who was wrongly charged in 1893 with giving defence secrets to Germany, and sent to prison. Attempts to have him declared not guilty and freed failed because of anti-Jewish feeling and the power of the army. The **Dreyfus Affair** split the whole of French society. In 1906 Dreyfus was finally declared not guilty.

drib·ble[1] /ˈdrɪbəl/ *v* **1** [I] ‖ usu. **drool** *AmE* —to let the natural liquid (SALIVA) flow out slowly from the mouth: *The baby is dribbling. Can you wipe his mouth?* **2** [I;T] **a** (of a liquid, esp. saliva, or a powdery solid) to flow out in drops: *water dribbling from the pipe* **b** to allow to do this: *This artist works by dribbling paint straight from the tube.* **3** [I;T] (in ball games) to move (the ball) by a number of short kicks, strokes, or BOUNCES

dribble[2] *n* **1** a small thin flow; TRICKLE **2** an act of dribbling a ball

drib·let /ˈdrɪblɨt/ *n* a very small unimportant amount: *to pay the money in driblets*

dribs /drɪbz/ *n* **dribs and drabs** *infml* small unimportant amounts: *They're paying me back in dribs and drabs.*

dried /draɪd/ *past tense & participle of* DRY[2]: *dried milk/flowers* —see also CUT-AND-DRIED

dried fruit /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* [C,U] fruit dried either industrially or in the sun and used in cooking or eaten in its dried state

dried milk /ˌ· ˈ·/ also **powdered milk**— *n* [U] milk which has been made with a powder by having the water taken out of it

dri·er /ˈdraɪəʳ/ *n* a DRYER

drift[1] /drɪft/ *v* **1** [I] to float or be driven along by wind, waves, or currents: *They drifted out to sea.* | (fig.) *She just drifts aimlessly from job to job.* | (fig.) *They had been married for a long time but gradually* **drifted apart** *until they separated.* | (fig.) *The conversation drifted from one subject to another.* **2** [I;T] to (cause to) pile up under the force of the wind or water: *The snow was drifting in great piles against the house.* | *leaves drifted by the wind*

drift[2] *n* **1** [C] a mass of something, such as snow or sand, blown together by wind: *a drift of dead leaves* | *a snowdrift* **2** [C;U] a general tendency or movement: *the drift*

of young people from the country to the city | *We must stop this drift towards war.* **3** [S] the general meaning; GIST: *I'm sorry. I can't quite catch the drift of what you're saying.*

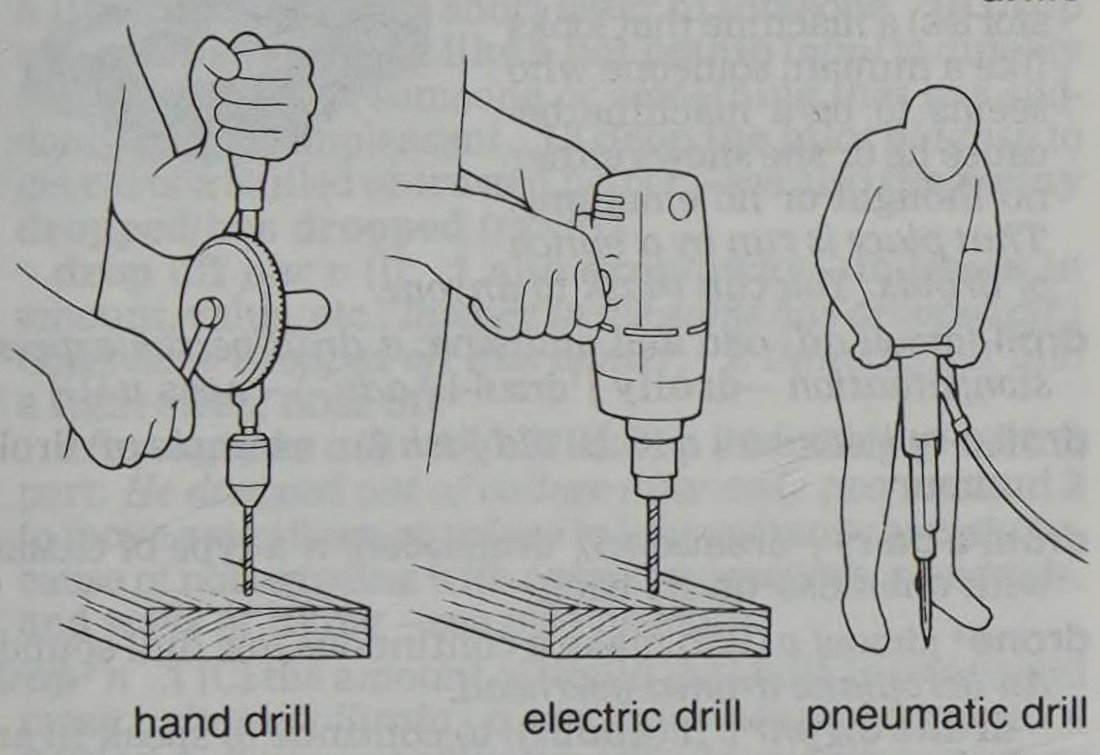
drift·er /ˈdrɪftəʳ/ *n* **1** *often derog* a person who travels or moves about aimlessly or who has no aim in life **2** a fishing boat that uses a floating net (a **driftnet**)

drift·wood /ˈdrɪftwʊd/ *n* [U] wood floating on water and often washed onto the shore: *After the storm they made a fire from the driftwood on the beach.*

drill[1] /drɪl/ *n* **1** [C] a tool or machine for making holes: *a road drill* | *a dentist's drill* **2** [C;U] (a piece of) training and instruction in a subject or for a purpose, esp. by means of repeating and following exact orders: *The soldiers do rifle drill in the mornings.* | *a* **fire drill** (=practice in dealing with fire in a building) | *a grammar drill for students of English* **3** [*the*] *BrE infml* the correct way of doing something effectively; PROCEDURE: *What's the drill for getting money after four o'clock?*

drill[2] *v* **1** [I;T] to use a drill on (something): *to drill for oil* | *to drill someone's teeth* | *The workmen are drilling (in) the road.* **2** [T] to make with a drill or use a drill on: *to drill a hole in the wall* | *to drill an old filling out of a tooth* **3** [I;T] **a** to train (soldiers) in military movements **b** to practise military movements under instruction **4** [T] **a** [(**in**)] to instruct and exercise (students) by the repeating of words, actions, etc.: *drilling the class in the use of the past tense* **b** [+*obj*+IN, **into**] to teach (facts) in this way: *She drilled it into the children that they must say "Thank you" to their hostess.*

drills



hand drill electric drill pneumatic drill

drill[3] *n* **1** a machine for planting seeds in rows **2** a row of seeds planted in this way

drill[4] *n* [U] a type of strong cotton cloth: *drill trousers*

dri·ly /ˈdraɪli/ *adv* see DRY[1]

drink[1] /drɪŋk/ *v* **drank** /dræŋk/, **drunk** /drʌŋk/ **1** [I;T (UP)] to move (liquid) from the mouth down the throat; swallow: *Drink (up) your tea before it gets cold.* **2** [I] to use alcohol, esp. habitually or too much: *He doesn't smoke or drink.* | *You shouldn't* **drink and drive**. (=drive a car after drinking alcohol) | *He* **drinks like a fish**. (=drinks a lot of alcohol) | *I only drink socially.* (=only drink at parties, social occasions, etc.)

►CULTURAL NOTE To drink a reasonable amount of alcohol is thought to be acceptable in British and American society, but to drink so much or so often that you are not in control is seen as medically and socially unwise.◄

3 [I (**to**);T] to have an alcoholic drink in order to wish someone success, health, etc.: *Let's drink to your success in your new job!* | *We* **drank a toast** *to the bride and groom.* —see also HEALTH(3) **4** [T+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] to bring to a stated condition by drinking alcohol: *He drank himself into unconsciousness.* | *He drank his troubles away.* **5 drink someone under the table** *infml* to drink much more alcohol than someone without becoming drunk

drink sthg. ↔ **in** *phr v* [T] to receive through the senses, esp. eagerly: *They drank in the sights and sounds of the city.*

drink[2] *n* [C;U] **1** (an amount of) a liquid suitable for drinking: *Would you like a drink of water?* | *Have you any soft drinks?* (=non-alcoholic cold drinks) **2** (a glass, measure, etc. of) alcohol for drinking: *Have another drink!* | *There's no drink in the house.* | *The continual quarrelling* **drove her to drink.** (=made her begin to drink a lot of alcohol) | *He has a drink problem.* (=he habitually drinks too much) | *Don't forget we're invited to the Willises for drinks Sunday lunchtime.* —see also DRINKS PARTY, HARD DRINK

drin·ka·ble /ˈdrɪŋkəbəl/ *adj* suitable or safe for drinking

drink-driv·ing /ˌ· ˈ··/ *BrE* ‖ **drunk driving** *AmE*— *n* [U] the act of driving while under the influence of alcohol: *Although more breath tests for drink driving were given, the number of positive results dropped.* —see also MADD— **drink-driver** ‖ **drunk driver** *n*

►CULTURAL NOTE This is against the law in Britain and the US, and taken very seriously by the police and also by the public now, although many people used to think it less serious. Some drivers believe that no alcohol should be drunk at all, but others think that a small amount is acceptable and will not affect their skill on the road. There is a lot of publicity, esp. at Christmas every year, to persuade people not to drink and drive, and relatives of those killed or hurt by drink-drivers have argued that punishments should be more severe.◄

drink·er /ˈdrɪŋkəʳ/ *n* a person who drinks alcohol, esp. too much: *a* **hard drinker**

drinking foun·tain /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* an apparatus, usu. in a public place, that provides water for drinking

drinking-up time /ˌ·· ˈ· ˌ·/ *n* [U] in Britain, a period of time allowed in a place where alcoholic drinks are sold, for people to finish their drinks after the official closing time

drinking wa·ter /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* [U] water that is pure enough for people to drink

drinks ma·chine /ˈ· ·ˌ·/ also **coffee machine** *n* a machine which makes and serves hot drinks when one puts in money

drinks par·ty /ˈ· ˌ··/ *BrE*‖**cocktail party** *AmE*— *n* a party at which alcohol is the main thing offered. Middle or upper class people might invite their neighbours for drinks at midday on a Saturday or Sunday. Drinks parties are often quite large: *a farewell drinks party for one of my colleagues*

drip[1] /drɪp/ *v* **-pp-** **1** [I (DOWN);T] to fall or let fall in drops: *Water is dripping (down) from the roof.* | *The roof is dripping water.* **2** [I] to produce small drops of liquid: *a dripping tap*

drip with sthg. *phr v* [T] to be very full of or covered with: *The woman was dripping with expensive jewels.*

drip[2] *n* **1** [S] the action or sound of falling in drops: *All night I heard the drip drip drip of the water.* **2** [C] a piece of medical equipment used for putting liquid from a tube directly into a patient's bloodstream: *The patient was put on a drip after her operation.* **3** [C] *sl* an uninteresting unconfident person without a strong character

drip-dry /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *adj* (of clothing) that will dry smooth and needs no ironing after being hung while it is wet: *a drip-dry shirt* —**drip-dry** *v* [I;T]

drip·ping[1] /ˈdrɪpɪŋ/ also **drippings** *pl. AmE n* [U] the fat that has come from meat during cooking. Some people think that dripping is very tasty and have childhood memories of eating bread and dripping. Other people think it is unhealthy and unpleasant and would not want to eat it at all.

dripping[2] *adj, adv* very wet: *I'm absolutely dripping!* | *a* **dripping wet** *towel*

drive[1] /draɪv/ *v* **drove** /drəʊv/, **driven** /ˈdrɪvən/ **1** [I;T] to move or travel in (a vehicle with more than two wheels) while guiding and controlling it: *to drive a car/train/ bus* | *Shall we stop for lunch or shall we drive on?* (=continue driving) | *They drove to the station.* | *He loaded the van and drove off.* | *I'm learning to drive.* —compare RIDE[1] (1) **2** [T+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] to take (someone) in a vehicle: *Can you drive me to the station?* **3** [T+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] to force to go: *The farmer was driving his cattle along the road.* | *The bad weather has driven the tourists away.* | *The firemen were driven back by the flames.* | *The shortage of bread will probably drive prices up.* **4** [T] to provide the power for: *The engines drive the ship.* **5** [T+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] to force to go somewhere by hitting: *to drive the nail into/through the wood* **6** [T+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] to produce by opening a way: *to drive a tunnel through a mountain/under a river* **7** [T] to force (someone) into a usu. unpleasant condition or undesirable course of action: [+*obj*+*adv*/*prep*] *Continual failure drove him to despair/to*

drink. | *That noise is driving me out of my mind.* [+*obj*+*adj*] *The pain nearly drove her mad.* [+*obj*+*to-v*] *Poverty and hunger drove them to steal.* **8** [I] (esp. of rain) to move along with great force: *driving rain* **9 drive a coach and horses through** (to destroy an argument, case, etc.): *The new evidence drove a coach and horses through the case against them.* **10 drive a hard bargain** to get an agreement very much in one's own favour **11 drive something home (to)** to make something unmistakably clear (to): *The accident at the factory really drove home (to us) the point that safety regulations must be observed.*

▷USAGE If you are in control of a car you **drive** it, if you are in control of a ship you **pilot** it, and if you are in control of a bicycle you **ride** it. If you direct the course of a car, ship, or bicycle you **steer** it. But when talking about a plane, the words **fly** and **pilot** mean both being in control of it and directing its course: *to* **fly/pilot** *an aeroplane* –see also CAR (USAGE), TRANSPORT (USAGE)◁

drive at sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*; *in progressive forms*] *infml* to mean or suggest indirectly; HINT: *What are you driving at?*

drive off *phr v* **1** [T] (**drive** sbdy./sthg. ↔ **off**) to force away or back; REPEL: *They drove off their attackers.* **2** [I] (in the game of GOLF) to make the first stroke

drive[2] *n* **1** [C] a journey in a vehicle (esp. for pleasure): *They went for a drive along the coast.* **2** [C] also **driveway** – a road for vehicles that connects a private house or garage with the street –see picture at HOUSE **3** [C] an act of hitting a ball, the distance a ball is hit, or the force with which it is hit: *to hit a long high drive to the right* **4** [C] a planned effort by a group for a particular purpose; CAMPAIGN: *The club is having a membership drive.* (=to get more members) | *a big anti-smoking drive* **5** [C] an important natural human need which must be fulfilled: *Hunger, thirst, and sex are among the strongest human drives.* **6** [U] a forceful active quality of mind that gets things done; INITIATIVE: *He's clever but he won't succeed because he lacks drive.* **7** [C;U] the apparatus by which a machine is set or kept in movement: *This car has (a) front-wheel drive.* (=the engine turns the front wheels) **8** [C] *BrE* a competition of the stated type, esp. of a card game: *a whist drive* –see also DISK DRIVE

drive-a-way car /ˈdraɪvəweɪ ˌkɑːr/ also **driveaway** *n AmE* a car which its owner needs in another place. The owner pays a **driveaway company** to move the car for him. People who wish to travel cheaply may telephone or visit a driveaway company and see if there is a car waiting to be delivered to the place they want to go: *I might go to LA next week if I can get a driveaway.* –compare **getaway car** (GETAWAY)

drive-by /ˈ· ·/ *adj* [A] *AmE* (of a crime) done from a moving car: *a drive-by shooting* | *Drive-by murders have terrorized the city.*

drive-in /ˈ· ·/ *adj* [A] *esp. AmE* that people can use while remaining in their cars: *a drive-in restaurant|cinema* – **drive-in** *n* : *Are you coming to the drive-in tonight?*

driv·el /ˈdrɪvəl/ *v* **-ll-** *BrE* ‖ **-l-** *AmE* [I (ON)] to talk nonsense –**drivel** *n* [U] : *Don't talk such drivel!* – ~**ler** *n*

driv·en /ˈdrɪvən/ *adj* (of a person) full of a sense of urgency about something; extremely MOTIVATED: *He's a driven man.*

driv·er /ˈdraɪvəʳ/ *n* **1** a person who drives: *the driver of a car* | *special insurance rates for young drivers* **2** a GOLF CLUB (2) with a wooden head –see also SUNDAY DRIVER

driver's li·cense /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n AmE* for DRIVING LICENCE

drive·way /ˈdraɪvweɪ/ *n* a DRIVE[2] (2)

driv·ing /ˈdraɪvɪŋ/ *adj* [A] **1** passing on or carrying power or force: *a driving wheel* **2** able to produce strong or noticeable effects; DYNAMIC: *He is the owner of the company, but his deputy is the real* **driving force** *behind it.* **3** having great force: *driving rain* **4** of or about guiding and controlling vehicles, esp. cars: *a driving school* | *a driving test* **5 in the ˈdriving seat** *infml* in charge; in control

driving ban /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* an order forbidding a person to drive: *He received a driving ban after being caught with twice the legal amount of alcohol in his blood.*

driving li·cence /ˈ·· ˌ··/ *BrE* ‖ **driver's license** *AmE n* a paper giving official permission to drive a motor vehicle, obtained after success in a **driving test**.

►CULTURAL NOTE In Britain, a driving licence can be obtained at the age of 17. In the US, the age is 15 or 16, depending on the state. Most people in Britain learn through taking driving lessons from a private instructor, but in the US many people learn to drive at school.◄

driving range /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* an open outdoor area where people (pay to) practise hitting GOLF balls

driving test /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* the examination which one must pass before one can have a driving licence and drive a vehicle on public roads

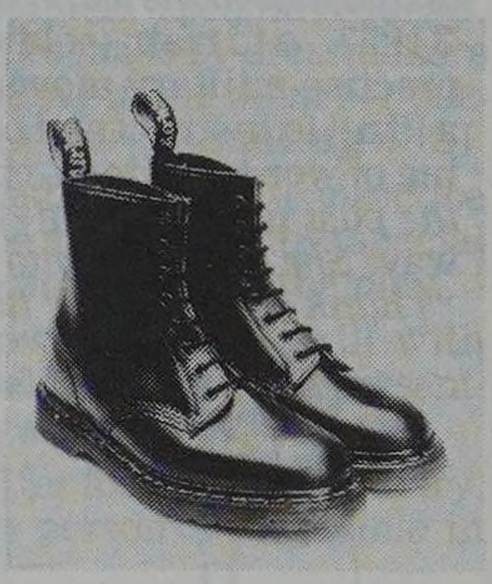
driving under the in·flu·ence /ˌ·· · · ˈ···/ ‖also **driving while intoxicated** *AmE– n* [U] the crime of driving a car after drinking too much alcohol; DRINK-DRIVING

driz·zle[1] /ˈdrɪzəl/ *v* [*it*+I] to rain in very small drops or very lightly –see RAIN (USAGE)

drizzle[2] *n* [S;U] (a) fine misty rain –**-zly** *adj* : *a drizzly day*

Dr Martens /ˌ·· ˈ··/ also **Doc Martens** [P] *tdmk* a make of strong heavy-looking shoes or boots with LACES. Dr Martens are very practical shoes worn by people in certain jobs, esp. policemen. They are also worn as fashion shoes, esp. by young people.

Dr Martens



droid /drɔɪd/ *n esp. AmE, humor* (from SCIENCE FICTION stories) a machine that looks like a human; someone who seems to be a machine because he or she shows either no thought or no emotions: *That place is run by a bunch of droids. You can't talk to anyone.*

droll /drəʊl/ *adj* odd and amusing: *a droll person|expression|situation* –**drolly** /ˈdrəʊl-li/ *adv* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

droll·e·ry /ˈdrəʊləri/ *n* [C;U] *old-fash* (an example of) droll humour

drom·e·da·ry /ˈdrɒmədəri‖ˈdrɑːməderi/ *n* a type of CAMEL with one HUMP on its back

drone[1] /drəʊn/ *v* [I] to make a continuous low dull sound: *An aeroplane droned overhead.*

drone on *phr v* [I (**about**)] to continue to speak in an uninteresting way in a low dull voice: *He always drones on (and on) about his problems.*

drone[2] *n* [(*the*) S] **1** a continuous dull low sound: *the distant drone of the traffic* **2 a** a fixed deep note sounded continuously during a piece of music **b** the pipe in a set of BAGPIPES that makes a sound like this

drone[3] *n* **1** a male BEE **2** *BrE derog* a person who lives on other people's work; PARASITE **3** *AmE* a dull person in a dull job

dron·go /ˈdrɒŋgəʊ‖ˈdrɑːŋ-/ *n* **-goes** *esp. AustrE, infml* a stupid or worthless person

drool /druːl/ *v* [I] *derog* **1** to let the natural liquid (SALIVA) flow from the mouth, esp. because of a pleasant sight or smell: *At the sight of the food the dog started drooling.* **2** *AmE* ‖ **dribble** *BrE*– (of a baby) to let saliva flow out slowly from the mouth **3** [(**over**)] to show enjoyment or admiration in a foolish or unpleasant way: *The boys were all drooling over a picture of a girl in a bikini.* –compare SLOBBER

droop /druːp/ *v* [I] **1** to hang or bend downwards: *His shoulders drooped with tiredness.* | *The flowers in the vase drooped in the hot room.* | *a tree with drooping branches* **2** to become sad or weakened; LANGUISH: *Our spirits drooped.* –**droop** *n* [(*the*) S] : *the droop of his shoulders*

drop[1] /drɒp‖drɑːp/ *v* **-pp-** **1** [I;T] to fall or let fall, esp. unintentionally, unexpectedly, or suddenly: *She dropped her glasses and broke them.* | *I dropped the box on my foot.* | *The fruit dropped (down) from the tree.* | *Your button has dropped off!* | (fig.) *She dropped into a deep sleep.* | (fig.) *They worked until they dropped.* (=until they were completely tired) | (fig.) *Her face dropped* (=she looked shocked or disappointed) *when she saw the bill.* **2** [I;T] to (cause to) fall to a lower level or amount: *The price of oil has dropped sharply|dropped to $12 a barrel.* | *He dropped his voice to a whisper.* | *The motorist dropped his*

speed. | The wind/The temperature has dropped. **3** [T+*obj*+*adv*|*prep*] *infml* to allow (someone) to get out of a vehicle: *Drop me (off) at the corner.* **4** [T] to stop seeing, talking about, doing, or considering; give up: *Let's drop the subject.* | *When the fire alarm rang I* **dropped everything** (=stopped what I was doing) *and ran out of the building.* | *I'm going to drop history this year.* (=stop studying it) | *They were planning to build a tunnel there, but I think they've dropped the idea now.* **5** [T (**from**)] to stop including; leave out: *I've been dropped (from the football team) for next Saturday's match.* | *He often* **drops his "h's"** (=doesn't pronounce them) *when he talks.* **6** [I+*adv*] to visit unexpectedly or informally: *Drop in and see us when you're next in London!* | *Drop round one evening next week.* | *Jane* **dropped in on me** *after supper.* | *Bill dropped by this morning.* **7** [I+*adv*|*prep*] to get further away from a moving object by moving more slowly than it: *Our boat started the race well, but soon dropped off*|*away (from the others)*|*dropped behind (the others).* **8** [T] to add while talking about something else (esp. in the phrases **drop a hint/a suggestion**) —see also **let drop** (LET[1] (6)) **9** [T] *infml* to lose (money): *I dropped £1000 over that deal.* **10** [T] *infml* to knock down with a shot or blow **11** [T] (in cricket) to fail to catch a ball hit by a BATSMAN: *Gooch dropped Gatting in the second over.* **12** [T] *infml* to take (a drug) by mouth: *to drop acid* **13 drop a brick/clanger** *BrE infml* to do or say something foolish and socially uncomfortable: *He dropped a brick in front of the president by calling her "Sir".* **14 drop dead: a** *infml* to die suddenly **b** *sl* (used rudely in commands to express dislike, annoyance, etc.) **15 drop someone a line/note** to write a short letter to someone **16 drop someone/something like a hot potato** *infml* to quickly stop dealing with someone or something that has suddenly become unpleasant **17 drop the pilot** *old-fash* to get rid of a skilled or trusted helper —see also **the penny dropped/has dropped** (PENNY)

drop off *phr v* [I] **1** also **drop away**— to lessen in amount, value, etc.: *Interest in the game has dropped off.* | *Sales have dropped off this winter.* **2** *infml* to fall into a light sleep; DOZE **off**

drop out *phr v* [I] **1** [**(of)**] to stop attending or taking part: *He dropped out of college after only two weeks.* **2** to move away from or refuse to join ordinary society because of not agreeing with accepted practices, standards, and ways of living —see also DROPOUT

drop[2] *n* **1** [C] the amount of liquid that falls in one round mass: *a drop of oil/rain* | *a tear drop* —see picture at PIECE **2** [C] a small amount of liquid: *"Would you like some more tea?" "Just a drop, please."* | *He's had a drop too much* (=of alcohol) *to drink.* | (fig.) *There isn't a drop of jealousy in her.* **3** [C] a small round sweet of the stated kind: *fruit drops*|*chocolate drops* **4** [S] **a** a distance or fall straight down: *a long drop to the bottom of the cliff* | *a drop of nine metres* **b** a fall in amount, quality, etc.: *a big drop in the temperature* | *another drop in sales* **5** [C] *esp. AmE* a place where something can be dropped or left: *a mail drop* **6** [C] something that is dropped: *a drop of grain sacks from an aircraft to the hungry people* **7 a drop in the bucket/the ocean** a very small amount, esp. when compared with a larger amount which is needed or wanted: *The money we collected for the famine victims is really just a drop in the ocean.* **8 at the drop of a hat** suddenly and needing almost no excuse: *She expects me to rush over and help at the drop of a hat.* —see also DROPS

drop cloth /ˈ· ·/ *AmE* ‖ **dust sheet** *BrE*— *n* a large sheet of cloth used for throwing over furniture, floors, shop goods, etc. to protect them from dust, paint, or damage

drop-dead /ˈ· ·/ *adj, adv AmEsl apprec* extremely and immediately impressive: *He's handsome, but not drop-dead handsome.* | *a drop-dead evening gown*

drop goal /ˈ· ·/ *n* a SCORE in the game of RUGBY made with a dropkick

drop-in /ˈ· ·/ *n* (*tech*) a condition caused by accidentally introducing information during the movement of DATA in a computer —compare DROP-OUT (2)

drop-in cen·tre /ˈ· · ˌ··/ *n* an informal place where people can go for help or information and where they may meet friends and sit and talk

drop·kick /ˈdrɒpkɪk‖ˈdrɑːp-/ *n* a kick made (e.g. in the game of RUGBY) by dropping a ball and kicking it immediately

drop-kick /ˈ· ·/ *v* **1** [I] to make a dropkick **2** [T] to SCORE a GOAL with a dropkick —**~er** *n*

drop·let /ˈdrɒplɨt‖ˈdrɑːp-/ *n* a very small drop of liquid

drop-out /ˈdrɒpaʊt‖ˈdrɑːp-/ *n* **1** someone who leaves a school or college without completing the course **2** *usu. derog* someone who leaves ordinary society because they do not agree with accepted practices, standards, and ways of living —see also DROP **out**

drop-out /ˈ· ·/ *n* **1** a dropkick given to the defending team in the game of RUGBY **2** (*tech*) a condition caused by the accidental loss of information during the movement of DATA in a computer —compare DROP-IN **3** a case of an electronic machine not working for a short time

drop·per /ˈdrɒpəʳ‖ˈdrɑː-/ *n* a short glass tube with an air-filled part (BULB) at one end, used for measuring out liquids, esp. liquid medicine, in drops

drop·pings /ˈdrɒpɪŋz‖ˈdrɑː-/ *n* [P] waste matter from the bowels of animals and birds: *bird|sheep droppings*

drops /drɒps‖drɑːps/ *n* [P] (*often in comb.*) liquid medicine to be taken drop by drop: *eyedrops* | *These drops are administered orally.*

drop scone /ˈ· ˌ·/ also **pancake** *ScotE n* a small round cake made by dropping a spoonful of BATTER onto a hot pan, which may be served for tea with butter and JAM

drop shot /ˈ· ·/ *n* a delicate shot in a game such as tennis or SQUASH, in which the ball drops gently to the ground and does not rise up again very far, so that it is difficult to hit

drop·sy /ˈdrɒpsi‖ˈdrɑːpsi/ *n* [U] a gathering of liquid under the skin or in the organs because of various diseases **—-sical** *adj*

dross /drɒs‖drɑːs, drɔːs/ *n* [U] **1** waste or worthless matter **2** something that is of very poor quality: *I thought the film was utter dross!*

drought /draʊt/ *n* [C;U] (a long period of) dry weather when there is not enough water: *The crops failed because of the drought.*

drove[1] /drəʊv/ *past tense of* DRIVE[1]

drove[2] *n* a group of esp. farm animals driven in a body: *a drove of cattle*

drov·er /ˈdrəʊvəʳ/ *n* a person who drives cattle or sheep

droves /drəʊvz/ *n* [P] a crowd of people moving together: *droves of sightseers* | *The tourists came in droves.*

drown /draʊn/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) die by being under water and unable to breathe: *She drowned in the river.* **2** [T] to cover completely with water, esp. by a rise in the water level; SUBMERGE: *streets and houses drowned by the floods* **3** [T (**with, in**)] to cover thickly; SMOTHER: *drowning the bananas with cream* **4** [T (OUT)] to prevent (a sound) from being heard by making a loud noise: *The band drowned out our conversation.* **5 drown one's sorrows** to drink alcohol in an attempt to forget one's troubles

drowse /draʊz/ *v* [I] to be in a light sleep or pleasantly sleepy state

drow·sy /ˈdraʊzi/ *adj* **1** sleepy: *The medicine may make you drowsy.* **2** making one sleepy: *a drowsy summer afternoon* **3** peacefully inactive: *a drowsy village* **—-sily** *adv* **—-siness** *n* [U] : *These pills may cause drowsiness.*

drub·bing /ˈdrʌbɪŋ/ *n infml* a thorough defeat: *We gave the other team a good drubbing.*

drudge[1] /drʌdʒ/ *v* [I] to do hard uninteresting work

drudge[2] *n* a person who drudges

drudg·e·ry /ˈdrʌdʒəri/ *n* [U] hard uninteresting work

drug[1] /drʌg/ *n* **1** a medicine or a substance used for making medicines: *a drug used in the treatment of cancer* **2** a substance one takes, esp. as a habit, for pleasure or excitement: *Tobacco and alcohol can be dangerous drugs.* | *a growing market for* **hard drugs** *such as heroin and cocaine* | *Is he* **on drugs**? (=Does he take ILLEGAL drugs?) | *efforts to control drug trafficking* (=the trade in illegal drugs) | *Some people argue that the use of* **soft drugs** *such as marijuana leads to the use of hard drugs.*

►CULTURAL NOTE Illegal drugs, esp. cannabis and LSD, became popular among young people in the 1960s and 70s. Drugs were seen as a way of examining the unconscious mind and of gaining knowledge of the rich experiences of the mind. The use of illegal drugs is now a serious problem in both Britain and the US.◄

3 a drug on the market *infml* goods which no one wants to buy

drug² *v* **-gg-** [T] **1** to add drugs to, esp. so as to produce unconsciousness: *a drugged cup of coffee* **2** to influence with drugs or give drugs to, esp. so as to produce unconsciousness: *They drugged him to kill the pain.* | *He's* **drugged up to the eyeballs.**

drug a·buse /ˈ· ·ˌ·/ also **drug misuse,** *BrE–* *n* [U] the use of drugs, both legal and not legal, not for medical reasons but for pleasure or because of ADDICTION: *the growing problem of drug abuse*

drug ad·dict /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a person who habitually takes drugs, e.g. HEROIN or COCAINE, to give themselves pleasure, and has become dependent on the drug to such a degree that they would be very ill if they were unable to continue taking it – ~**ion** *n* [U] : *The singer was reported to be receiving help to overcome his drug addiction.*

drug bar·on /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n derog* someone who is the head of an organization which makes a lot of money from selling ILLEGAL drugs, such as NARCOTICS

drug czar /ˈ· ˌ·/ *n* (in America) an official appointed by the government to try and stop the trade in ILLEGAL drugs

Drug En·force·ment Ad·min·i·stra·tion /ˌ· ·ˈ·· ···ˌ··/ (*abbrev* **DEA**) an American government organization which makes sure that people and companies obey the laws about dangerous drugs. They try to catch people who bring dangerous drugs into the US and people who sell drugs within the US.

drug·get /ˈdrʌgɨt/ *n* [C;U] (a piece of) rough heavy cloth used esp. as a floor covering

drug·gie /ˈdrʌgi/ *n infml* a DRUG ADDICT or someone who often takes drugs

drug·gist /ˈdrʌgɨst/ *n AmE for* PHARMACIST (2)

drug mis·use /ˌ· ·ˈ·/ *n BrE for* DRUG ABUSE

drug push·er /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* someone who sells ILLEGAL drugs such as HEROIN for profit, and encourages people to take them

drug re·ha·bil·i·ta·tion /ˌ· ····ˈ··/ ‖ *also* **drug re·hab** /ˌdrʌg ˈriːhæb/ *AmE–* *n* [U] the process of learning to live without drugs and to fight DRUG ADDICTION. In Britain and the US, drug rehabilitation centres exist to help DRUG ADDICTS.

drug rehabilitation cen·tre /ˌ· ····ˈ·· ˌ··/ *n* a place where medical help is given to DRUG ADDICTS to enable them to stop taking harmful drugs such as HEROIN

drugstore



drug·store /ˈdrʌgstɔːr/ *n esp. AmE* a PHARMACY, esp. one which sells not only medicine, but also beauty products, school supplies, small things to eat, garden products, film, etc., and formerly, simple meals.

►CULTURAL NOTE Drug stores as an institution do not really exist in Britain, and the British idea of them is very much a part of the American way of life as seen in films and TV programmes of the 1950s and 1960s.◄

dru·id /ˈdruːɨd/ *n* (*often cap.*) a member of the ancient Celtic priesthood of Britain, Ireland, and France, before the Christian religion

►CULTURAL NOTE There are people today who call themselves druids. They are considered by most people to be harmless but definitely odd. They are known about esp. because of their visits to Stonehenge where they perform various religious ceremonies at important times of the year for them, such as the longest day in the middle of summer. –see also STONEHENGE, SUMMER SOLSTICE◄

drum¹ /drʌm/ *n* **1** [C] a musical instrument consisting of a skin stretched tight over a hollow circular frame, which is played by being hit with the hand or with a stick: *the steady beat of the drum* –see picture at PERCUSSION **2** [C] something that looks like a drum, esp. a part of a machine or a large container for liquids: *an oil drum* **3 bang/beat the drum for** to speak in eager support of

drum² *v* **-mm-** [I] **1** to play a drum **2** [+ *adv/prep*] to make drum-like noises, esp. by continuous beating or striking: *He drummed on the table with his fingers.* | *the rain drumming against the window*

drum sthg. **into** sbdy. *phr v* [T] *infml* to put (an idea, rule, etc.) firmly into (someone's mind) by continuous repeating: *She drummed it into the children that they must not cross the road alone.*

drum sbdy. **out** *phr v* [T (**of**)] to send away formally and in dishonour; EXPEL: *He was drummed out of the army.*

drum sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] *infml* to obtain by continuous effort and esp. by advertising: *Let's try to drum up some more business.* | *to drum up support/enthusiasm for a cause*

drum·beat /ˈdrʌmbiːt/ *n* a stroke on a drum or its sound

drum ma·jor /ˌ· ˈ··‖ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* the male leader of a band of marching musicians, esp. a military band

drum ma·jor·ette /ˌ· ··ˈ·‖ˈ· ··ˌ·/ *n* –see MAJORETTE

drum·mer /ˈdrʌməʳ/ *n* a person who plays a drum

drum·stick /ˈdrʌmˌstɪk/ *n* **1** a stick for beating a drum **2** *infml* the lower part of the leg of a chicken or similar bird, eaten as food. These are often covered in BREADCRUMBS and cooked in hot oil, and eaten with the fingers.

drunk¹ /drʌŋk/ *past participle of* DRINK¹

drunk² *adj* [F] under the influence of alcohol: *The police charged him with being* **drunk and disorderly.** | *He got drunk on only two glasses of wine.* | *He's* **dead/blind drunk.** (=very drunk) | (fig.) *drunk with power* – compare SOBER¹ (1)

drunk³ *n often derog* a person who is (habitually) drunk

drunk·ard /ˈdrʌŋkəd‖-ərd/ *n derog* a person who is often drunk –compare ALCOHOLIC²

drun·ken /ˈdrʌŋkən/ *adj* [A] **1** drunk: *a drunken sailor* **2** resulting from or connected with too much drinking of alcohol: *a drunken sleep* | *a drunken party* – ~**ly** *adv* – ~**ness** *n* [U]

drunk·o·me·ter /drʌŋˈkɒmɨtəʳ‖-ˈkɑː-/ *n AmE* BREATHALYSER

Dru·ry Lane /ˌdrʊəri ˈleɪn/ a street in London famous for its theatre

Druze , Druse /druːz/ *n* [*the*] a Muslim religious group who live in the mountainous parts of Lebanon, Syria, and Israel and whose beliefs include some taken from Islam, Christianity, and Gnosticism

Dr Who /ˌ·· ˈ·/ a British children's television SERIES, started in 1963, about a character called Dr Who, who travels in time and space in a time machine (called the **Tardis**) with different companions. He fights wicked people and beings from other worlds, usu. in a non-violent way. Many adults who enjoyed the programmes as children still like to watch them, esp. the ones featuring DALEKS. –see also DALEK, TARDIS and see colour picture on page 686

dry¹ /draɪ/ *adj* **1** having no water or liquid inside or on the surface; not wet, sticky, or MOIST: *Don't put your shirt on until it's dry.* | *The soil is too dry for planting vegetables.* | *The paint isn't dry yet – be careful!* | *The well has gone dry.* | *dry skin* (=without natural liquids) | *The kettle boiled dry.* (=boiled until there was no water left) **2** without rain or wetness; lacking HUMIDITY: *a dry climate* | *a dry month* | *dry heat* –compare HUMID **3** having or producing thirst: *I always feel dry in this hot weather.* | *It's dry work digging in the sun.* **4** [A] (esp. of bread) eaten without butter, JAM, etc.: *dry toast* **5** without tears or other liquid substances from the body: *dry-eyed* (=not crying) | *a dry cough* | *By the end of the play, there wasn't* **a dry eye in the house.** (=everyone was crying) **6** (of alcoholic drinks, esp. wine) not sweet; not fruity in taste: *dry sherry* | *dry white wine* **7** no longer giving milk: *a dry cow* **8** not allowing the sale of alcoholic drink: *There are still some dry states in the US.* **9** amusing without appearing to be so; quietly IRONIC: *I like his dry humour.* **10** dull and uninteresting: *The book was* **as dry as dust.**

(=very dull) **11** *BrE infml* of or being a Conservative politician who has UNCOMPROMISING views —compare WET² (3) **12 (as) dry as a bone** *infml* perfectly dry; BONE-DRY —see also DRIP-DRY, **home and dry** (HOME² (4)) —**dryly, drily** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

dry² *v* **1** [I;T (OUT, UP, OFF)] to make or become dry: *Dry your hands.* | *Hang out the washing to dry.* | *The clothes will soon dry (out) in the sun.* | *to dry (up) the dishes* | *The swimmer dried off in the hot sun.* | *She ran in after the rainstorm and dried herself off with a thick towel.* **2** [T] to preserve (esp. food) by removing liquid: *dried fruit|milk* | *dried flowers* —see also CUT-AND-DRIED

dry out *phr v* [I;T (=**dry** sbdy. **out**)] **1** to (cause to) give up dependence on alcoholic drink **2** to (cause to) become completely dry

dry up *phr v* **1** [I;T (=**dry** sthg. ↔ **up**)] to (cause to) become completely dry: *During the drought the reservoirs dried up.* | *a dried-up river bed* **2** [I] (of a supply of something) to come to an end: *Our sources of information have dried up.* **3** [I] **a** [*usu. imperative*] *sl* to stop talking or writing, or be quiet, usu. because one has forgotten what one has to say next or cannot think of anything to say **b** *infml* to forget one's words when acting in a play: *He dried up three times in the second act.*

dry·ad /ˈdraɪæd/ *n* a female spirit in ancient Greek stories who lived in a tree; wood NYMPH —compare OREAD

dry bat·te·ry /ˈ· ˌ··/ also **dry cell** /ˈ· ·/ *n* an electric BATTERY containing chemicals which are not in a liquid form

dry-clean /ˌ· ˈ·/ *v* [T] to clean (clothes, material, etc.) with chemicals instead of water

dry clean·er's /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* a shop where clothes, curtains, etc., can be taken to be dry-cleaned

Dry·den /ˈdraɪdən/, **John** (1631–1700) an English writer of poetry and plays

dry dock /ˈ· ·/ *n* a place in which a ship is held in position while the water is pumped out, leaving the ship dry for repairs: *The ship is* **in dry dock** *being painted.*

dry·er , drier /ˈdraɪəʳ/ *n* (*often in comb.*) a machine that dries: *a hairdryer*

dry-eyed /ˌ· ˈ·◂/ *adj* (of a person) not having tears in the eyes; not crying

dry goods /ˈ· ·/ *n* [P] **1** *BrE* goods such as tobacco, drugs, tea, coffee, dried fruits, etc. **2** *AmE* goods such as clothing, cloth, sheets, curtains, and other things made from cloth: *a dry goods store|department*

dry ice /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* [U] CARBON DIOXIDE in a solid state, used mainly to keep food and other things cold

dry land /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* [U] land as opposed to water: *After three weeks at sea we were glad to get onto dry land again.*

dry mar·ti·ni /ˌ· ·ˈ··/ *n* [C;U] a (glass of an) alcoholic drink made from GIN and dry VERMOUTH. It is famous esp. for being the favourite drink of James Bond, who used to ask for *"a dry martini, shaken, not stirred"*

dry rot /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* [U] diseased growth in wood, e.g. in wooden floors, which turns wood into powder

dry run /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n infml* a practice exercise before the actual event: *Shall we do a dry run of the presentation?* | *Both the parties are treating the local elections as a dry run for the general election.*

dry-shod /ˌ· ˈ·/ *adj, adv* [F] *old use* without getting the shoes or feet wet: *to cross the stream dry-shod*

dry-stone wall /ˌ· · ˈ·/ *n* a stone wall built without MORTAR

DSc /ˌdiː es ˈsiː/ *n* Doctor of Science; a person given this degree by a university, after a period of study in a scientific subject

DSS /ˌdiː es ˈes/ *n* [*the*] Department of Social Security; the British government department which is responsible for paying people any BENEFITS that they are allowed, e.g. FAMILY CREDIT or UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT

DTI /ˌdiː tiː ˈaɪ/ *n* [*the*] see DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

DTP /ˌdiː tiː ˈpiː/ *abbrev. for*: DESKTOP PUBLISHING

D T's /ˌdiː ˈtiːz/ also **delirium tremens** *fml*– *n* [(*the*) P] a nervous state in which a person's body, caused by habitually drinking too much alcohol shakes and they see unreal things: *He's got the DT's.*

du·al /ˈdjuːəl‖ˈduːəl/ *adj* [A] consisting of two separate parts or having two parts like each other; double: *a training aircraft|a driving instructor's car with dual controls* | *a* **dual-purpose** *instrument* | *the government's dual aim of cutting taxes and increasing job opportunities* —~**ity** /djuˈælɨti‖du-/ *n* [U]

dual car·riage·way /ˌ·· ˈ···/ *n BrE*‖**divided highway** *AmE*– a main road on which the traffic travelling in opposite directions is kept apart by a central band or separation of some sort

dual cit·i·zen·ship /ˌ·· ˈ····/ *n* [U] the state of being a citizen of two countries: *She got dual citizenship last year and now holds a Swiss and a British passport.*

dub¹ /dʌb/ *v* **-bb-** [T+*obj*+*n*] **1** (esp. in newspapers) to name humorously or descriptively: *a period of strikes and labour troubles, which the papers dubbed "the winter of discontent"* **2** *lit or old use* (of a king or queen) to make (someone) a KNIGHT by a ceremonial touch on the shoulder with a sword and by giving him the title "Sir" before his name. The man who is being dubbed kneels for the ceremony. At the end the king/queen says "Arise/Rise Sir ...." This ceremony is known from stories from the MIDDLE AGES, and is still used regularly in Britain when men are given national honours.

dub² *v* [T] **1 (into)** to change the original spoken language of (a film, radio show, or television show): *a Swedish film dubbed into English* | *Is it dubbed or does it have subtitles?* **2** (*esp. BrE*) to make a record out of two or more different pieces of music or sounds mixed together

dub³ *n* [U] a West Indian style of poetry spoken to the RHYTHM of REGGAE music: *a dub poet*

Du·bai /duːˈbaɪ/ a state on the Persian Gulf, part of the United Arab Emirates

dub·bin /ˈdʌbɨn/ *n* [U] a thick oily substance used for making leather softer and to stop water going through it

Dub·ček /ˈdʊbtʃek/, **Al·ex·an·der** /ˌælɪgˈzɑːndəʳ‖-ˈzæn-/ (1921–92) a Czech politician who was the first secretary of the COMMUNIST Party in 1967 and became speaker of the Czech parliament in December 1989 —see also PRAGUE SPRING

du·bi·e·ty /djuːˈbaɪəti‖duː-/ *n* [U] *fml* uncertainty or doubt; dubiousness

du·bi·ous /ˈdjuːbiəs‖ˈduː-/ *adj* **1** [(**about**)] feeling doubt; undecided or uncertain: *I'm still dubious about that plan.* **2** causing doubt; of uncertain value or meaning or possibly dishonest: *a dubious suggestion* | *a plan of dubious merit* | *a rather dubious character* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

Dub·lin /ˈdʌblɨn/ the capital city of the Republic of Ireland. Dublin is known as the home of famous Irish writers, such as Jonathan Swift, George Bernard Shaw, and James Joyce, and mentioned in songs: *"In Dublin's fair city, where girls are so pretty..."* —see colour map on page 818 —~**er** *n*

Du·bon·net /duːˈbɒneɪ, djuː-‖ˌduːbəˈneɪ/ *n* [C;U] *tdmk* a drink made from French sweet wine, often served before a meal, in a small glass

du·cal /ˈdjuːkəl‖ˈduː-/ *adj* of or like a DUKE

duc·at /ˈdʌkət/ *n* a gold coin formerly used in several countries of Europe

duch·ess /ˈdʌtʃɨs/ *n* (*often cap.*) **1** the wife of a DUKE: *the Duchess of Kent* **2** a woman of ducal rank in her own right

du·chesse po·ta·toes /djuːˌʃes pəˈteɪtəʊz/ *n* [P] potatoes which have been boiled, mixed with egg, shaped into little cakes, and then baked

Duchess of Wind·sor /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ see **Wallis** SIMPSON

Duchess of York /ˌ·· · ˈ·/ [*the*] a title given to Sarah Ferguson after her marriage to Prince Andrew, the Duke of York, in 1986. The Duke and Duchess of York separated in 1992.

duch·y /ˈdʌtʃi/ *n* (*often cap.*) (used esp. in names) the lands of a DUKE or duchess: *the Duchy of Cornwall*

duck¹ /dʌk/ *n* **ducks** *or* **duck** **1** [C] **drake** *masc.* a common swimming bird with short

ducks



legs and a wide beak, either wild or kept for meat, eggs, and soft feathers. When they make a noise, they are said to QUACK: *A young duck is called a duckling.* **2** [U] the meat of this bird as food: *a plate of roast duck* —see MEAT (USAGE) **3** [C] *infml, esp. BrE* (used for addressing) a person one likes: *She's a sweet old duck.* **4** [C] (in cricket) the failure of a BATSMAN to make any runs at all **5 take to something like a duck to water** *infml* to learn or get used to something naturally and very easily —see also DUCKS, DEAD DUCK, LAME DUCK, SITTING DUCK, **like water off a duck's back** (WATER[1])

duck[2] *v* **1** [I;T] to lower (one's head or body) quickly, esp. so as to avoid being hit: *She had to duck (her head) to get through the low doorway.* | *He saw a policeman coming, and ducked behind a car.* **2** [T (**in**)] to push under water: *The children ducked each other in the swimming pool.* **3** [T] *infml* to try to avoid (a difficulty or unpleasant duty); DODGE: *His speech was full of generalizations, and ducked all the real issues.* —**duck** *n*

duck out of sthg. *phr v* [T+*obj*/*v-ing*] *infml* to escape one's responsibility for: *Don't try to duck out of cleaning up the kitchen!*

duck[3] *n* [U] a heavy strong usu. cotton cloth —see also DUCKS

duck·billed plat·y·pus /ˌdʌkˌbɪld ˈplætɨpəs/ *n* an egg-laying Australian animal with a beak like a duck's

duck·boards /ˈdʌkbɔːdz‖-bɔːrdz/ *n* [P] *BrE* narrow boards with spaces between, nailed on longer pieces of wood, for making a path over muddy ground

duck – duck – goose /ˌ· · ˈ·/ *n* [U] an American children's game usually played by a large group of children sitting in a circle, in which one player chooses another to be the GOOSE, and each tries to run the fastest around the circle

duck·ing stool /ˈ·· ·/ *n* a seat on one end of a long pole, to which bad-tempered and unpleasant women were tied in former times in order to be ducked in water as a punishment

duck·ling /ˈdʌklɪŋ/ *n* a small young duck —see also UGLY DUCKLING

ducks /dʌks/ *n* **1** [P] trousers made of DUCK[3]: *dressed in white ducks* —see PAIR (USAGE) **2** [S] also **ducky** *esp. BrE infml* (used to address a person in a friendly way): *How's that for you, ducks? Got enough there?*

ducks and drakes /ˌ· · ˈ·/ *n* [U] **1** a children's game in which one makes flat stones jump across the surface of water **2 play ducks and drakes with** *infml* to waste (money) wildly

duck·weed /ˈdʌkwiːd/ *n* [U] any of various plants that grow on the surface of fresh water

duck·y[1] /ˈdʌki/ *n infml* DUCKS (2)

ducky[2] *adj* **1** *AmE* perfect; satisfactory: *Oh, that's just ducky.* **2** *AmE* attractive in an amusing or interesting way; CUTE: *a ducky little cottage*

duct /dʌkt/ *n* **1** a thin, narrow tube in the body or in plants which carries liquids, air, etc.: *tearducts* **2** a pipe or tube for carrying liquids, air, electric power lines, etc. —see also AQUEDUCT, VIADUCT

duc·tile /ˈdʌktaɪl‖-tl/ *adj* **1** (esp. of metals) able to be pressed or pulled into shape without needing to be heated **2** *lit* (of a person or behaviour) easily influenced or controlled; MALLEABLE —**-tility** /dʌkˈtɪlɨti/ *n* [U]

duct·less gland /ˌdʌktləs ˈglænd/ *n* an ENDOCRINE GLAND

dud /dʌd/ *n infml* someone or something that has little or no value or use, or that fails to serve its purpose: *Several of the fireworks were duds.* (=failed to work properly) | *She's a dud at sports.* —**dud** *adj* : *a dud light bulb*

dud cheque /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* a cheque which is useless because the dishonest person who paid with it has no money in the account on which it is drawn

dude /djuːd‖duːd/ *n AmE sl* **1** a city man, esp. an Easterner in the West **2** a man; GUY

dude ranch /ˈ· ·/ *n* (in the US) a holiday place that offers activities, such as horse riding, typical of a RANCH (=a Western cattle farm)

dud·geon /ˈdʌdʒən/ *n* **in high dudgeon** *fml* angry and bitter because of bad treatment

due[1] /djuː‖duː/ *adj* **1** [F (**to**)] owed or owing as a debt or right: *Our grateful thanks are due to the police department for their help in the making of this film.* | *We must give credit where it is due.* (=praise someone who deserves praise, even if unwillingly) | *Any money that is due to you will be paid before the end of the month.* **2** [A] *fml* proper, correct, or suitable: *driving with due care and attention* | *The trial was conducted with* **due process of law.** **3** [F] payable: *a bill due today* **4** [F] (esp. showing arrangements made in advance) expected or supposed (to happen, arrive, etc.): *The next train to London is due at 4 o'clock.* | *Her baby is due* (=will be born) *next month.* [+*to-v*] *I am due to leave quite soon now.* | [+ for] *I am due for an increase in pay soon.* **5 due to** because of; caused by: *His success is entirely due to hard work.* | *Their increase in profits is due in part to*|*due largely to their innovative market strategy.* | *The price of gold rose again, due partly to rumours of war.* **6 with (all) due respect** (a phrase used when a speaker does not wish to appear rude, but does want to disagree with someone or find fault with them): *I know you are an expert in your field, but with all due respect this report needs to be rewritten before it can be published.* —see also DULY

▷ USAGE Compare **due to** and **owing to,** which are similar in meaning. 1 **Due to** is used after the verb *to be*; you cannot use **owing to** in this sentence: *His absence was* **due to** *the storm.* 2 Some people think that **due to** should only be used after the verb *to be*, but many speakers use it after other verbs, in the same way as **owing to:** *He arrived late* **due to**|**owing to** (=because of) *the storm.*◁

due[2] *n* **someone's due** something that rightfully belongs or is owed to someone, esp. something non-material: *I don't like him, but,* **to give him his due**, *he's good at his job.* | *She never takes more than her due.* —see also DUES, **give the devil his due** (DEVIL[1])

due[3] *adv* (before **north, south, east,** and **west**) directly; exactly: *due north (of here)*

due date /ˈ· ˌ·/ *n* the date on which something is due to happen, e.g. an amount of money must be paid

du·el[1] /ˈdjuːəl‖ˈduːəl/ *n* a fight with hand guns or swords, arranged (esp. formerly) between two people to settle a quarrel: *to fight a duel* | (fig.) *another duel between the company and the union*

du·el[2] *v* **-ll-** *BrE* ‖ **-l-** *AmE* [I (**with**)] to fight a duel —**duellist, dueller** *n*

du·en·na /djuˈenə‖duˈ-/ *n* (esp. formerly) an older woman in a Spanish-speaking or Portuguese-speaking country who watches over the daughters of a family and goes with them in public; CHAPERON

dues /djuːz‖duːz/ *n* [P] official charges or payments: *to pay union dues* | (fig.) *Agassi had lost the match, but he had done well, and had paid his dues.* —see also TAX (USAGE)

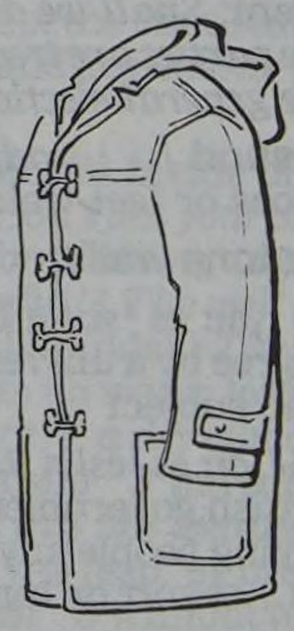
du·et /djuˈet‖duˈet/ also **duo** *n* a piece of music for two performers —compare SOLO[1] (1)

duff /dʌf/ *adj BrE infml* useless or worthless

duf·fel bag /ˈdʌfəl bæg/ *n* a bag about half a metre in length, made of strong cloth, with a round bottom and a string round the top, for carrying clothes and other belongings —compare KIT BAG

duffel coat , duffle coat /ˈ·· ·/ *n BrE* a loose coat made of a rough heavy woollen cloth, usu. fastened with TOGGLES (=long tubelike buttons) and often having a covering for the head joined to the neck. These coats are often worn by schoolchildren.

duffel coat



duf·fer /ˈdʌfəʳ/ *n old-fash infml* [(**at**)] a foolish person or slow learner: *She's a duffer at games.*

Du·fy /ˈduːfi‖duːˈfiː/, **Ra·oul** /rɑːˈuːl/ (1877–1953) a French painter known for his bright watercolour and oil paintings, esp. of horse racing and sailing scenes

dug[1] /dʌg/ *past tense & participle of* DIG[1]

dug[2] *n esp. lit* an animal's UDDER or NIPPLE

dug·out /ˈdʌgaʊt/ *n* **1** a small light boat made by cutting out a deep hollow space in a log: *a dugout canoe* **2** a (usu. military) shelter dug in the ground with an earth roof

—compare TRENCH (2) **3** a low shelter at the side of a sportsground, esp. a BASEBALL ground, where players and team officials can sit

DUI /ˌdiː juː ˈaɪ/ *n* [U] DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE: *The police usu. have a large number of DUI arrests on New Year's Eve.*

Du·ka·kis /duːˈkɑːkɪs/, **Mi·chael** /ˈmaɪkəl/ (1933–) an American Democrat politician who was the governor of Massachusetts from 1974–78, and also from 1982 onwards, and stood for president in 1988, losing to George Bush

duke /djuːk‖duːk/ *n* (*often cap.*) a nobleman of the highest rank outside the royal family: *the Duke of Norfolk* | *He became a duke on the death of his father.* —see also DUCHESS

duke·dom /ˈdjuːkdəm‖ˈduːk-/ *n* **1** the rank of a duke **2** the lands of a duke; DUCHY

Duke of Ed·in·burgh /ˌ· · ˈ····/ [*the*] see Prince PHILIP

Duke of Edinburgh's a·ward /ˌ· · ˌ···· ·ˈ·/ **Duke of Edinburgh's** *n* any of various MEDALs given to people as part of a programme suggested by the Duke of Edinburgh, in which young people take part in esp. physical activities which are useful to themselves or others, and reach a certain standard: *She's doing her Duke of Edinburgh gold at the moment. She's gone off camping in Snowdonia.*

Duke of Wel·ling·ton /ˌ· · ˈ···/ [*the*] (1769–1852) an Irish soldier and politician whose most famous victory was the defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo in 1815

Duke of West·min·ster /ˌ· · ˈ···/ [*the*] (1951–) one of the richest men in England and owner of a lot of land

Duke of Wind·sor /ˌ· · ˈ··/ see EDWARD VIII

Duke of York /ˌ· · ˈ·/ [*the*] see Prince ANDREW

dukes /djuːks‖duːks/ *n* [P] *sl for* FISTS: *Put your dukes up and fight!*

dul·cet /ˈdʌlsɨt/ *adj lit or humor* (esp. of sounds) sweet and calming: *She spoke in* **dulcet tones.**

dul·ci·mer /ˈdʌlsɨməʳ/ *n* **1** ‖ usu. **hammered dulcimer** *AmE* a European and American musical instrument with up to 100 strings, played with light hammers **2** a small stringed instrument popular in American FOLK MUSIC, rested on the player's LAP and plucked (PLUCK) with the fingers or a PICK

dull[1] /dʌl/ *adj* **1** (of colours or surfaces) not bright; not shining: *a dull grey* **2** not clear or sharp: *a dull knocking sound somewhere in the house* | *a dull pain* **3** (of weather, the sky, etc.) cloudy; not sunny; OVERCAST: *a dull day with showers of rain* **4** uninteresting or unexciting; BORING: *an afternoon of dull lectures* | *There's* **never a dull moment** *when John comes to stay.* (=there is always something interesting or amusing happening) **5** slow in thinking, learning, and understanding **6** (of things with edges or points) not sharp; BLUNT **7** (of trade) not active; SLUGGISH: *a dull day on the stockmarket* **8 (as) dull as ditchwater** *infml* very uninteresting —~**ly** /ˈdʌl-li/ *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

dull[2] *v* [T] to make dull: *Give me something to dull* (=lessen or make less sharp) *the pain.* | *Her hearing was dulled by age.*

dull·ard /ˈdʌlərd‖-ərd/ *n becoming rare* a dull slow-thinking person

Dul·les /ˈdʌlɨs/ an airport serving the Washington DC area

Dulles, John Foster (1888–1959) an American secretary of state (1953–59) and representative at the United Nations (1945–49). He fought Communism and encouraged agreements for security between the US and other countries.

Dul·wich /ˈdʌlɪdʒ, -ɪtʃ/ an area in SE London with many large houses with pleasant gardens

du·ly /ˈdjuːli‖ˈduːli/ *adv fml* in a proper manner, time, or degree; as expected: *The taxi that he had ordered duly arrived, and we drove off.* | *Your suggestion has been duly noted.* | *I enclose the contract, duly signed.*

Du·mas /ˈdjuːmɑː‖duːˈmɑː/, **Al·ex·an·dre** /ˌælɪgˈzɑːndrə/ (1802–70) a French writer of stories and plays including *The Count of Monte Cristo* and *The Three Musketeers*

Du Mau·ri·er /duː ˈmɔːrieɪ, djuː-‖də-/, **Daphne** (1907–89) an English writer of NOVELS, including *Jamaica Inn* and *Rebecca*

dumb /dʌm/ *adj* **1** unable to speak (may be considered offensive to people who are unable to speak): *dumb animals* | *The terrible news* **struck us dumb.** [also *n, the*+P] *special schools for the deaf and dumb* **2** unwilling to speak; silent: *The prisoner remained dumb throughout his trial.* **3** *infml* esp. *AmE* stupid: *That was a dumb thing to say.* —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

dumb·bell /ˈdʌmbel/ *n* **1** [*usu. pl.*] a weight consisting of two large metal balls connected by a short bar and usu. used in pairs for exercises to strengthen the body **2** *sl, esp. AmE* a stupid person

dumb blonde /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* a woman who is thought to be attractive but stupid. The woman need not actually have BLONDE hair or be dumb (=stupid) but may be called this by men or other women as a quick, offensive description. It would not be used in front of the person, but only about them: *She's just a dumb blonde.* | *She plays the dumb blonde in the film.*

dumb·found , dumfound /dʌmˈfaʊnd/ *v* [T] to make unable to speak because of wonder, surprise, or lack of understanding; SURPRISED: *She dumbfounded her critics by winning all the prizes.*

dumb·found·ed , dumfounded /dʌmˈfaʊndɨd/ also **dumb·struck** /ˈdʌmstrʌk/— *adj* [(**at, by**)] unable to speak because of shock, surprise, or lack of understanding; SURPRISE: *We were all dumbfounded at|by the news.* | *a dumbfounded silence* [+*that*] *I was dumbfounded that she could say such a thing.*

dum·bo /ˈdʌmbəʊ/ *n infml, esp. AmE* a stupid person: *Don't do it that way, you dumbo!*

Dumbo an elephant with large ears which is a Walt Disney film character

dumb show /ˈ· ·/ *n* [C;U] something performed with actions only, and without any speaking: *to tell a story in dumb show*

dumb·wait·er /ˌdʌmˈweɪtəʳ/ *n* **1** a small LIFT[2] (2) used for moving food, plates, etc., from one level of a building (esp. a restaurant) to another **2** *BrE*‖**lazy Susan** *AmE*— a small table that turns round on a fixed base, used for serving food

Dum·fries and Gal·lo·way /dʌmˌfriːs ənd ˈgæləweɪ/ a REGION in SW Scotland, including the town of Dumfries

Dum·fries·shire /dʌmˈfriːsʃəʳ/ a former COUNTY in S Scotland, now part of Dumfries and Galloway REGION

dum·my /ˈdʌmi/ *n* **1** an object made to look like and take the place of a real thing: *a dummy gun made of plastic* **2** a model of a human figure made of wood, plastic, etc. and used to make or show off clothes: *a dressmaker's dummy* **3** *BrE* ‖ **pacifier** *AmE* — a rubber TEAT for sucking, put in a baby's mouth to keep it quiet **4** *sl, esp. AmE* a stupid fool: *You dummy!* **5** (a player with) the open cards on the table in the game of BRIDGE

dummy run /ˌ·· ˈ·/ also **trial run** *n* a practice attempt made before the real thing; REHEARSAL: *a dummy run in preparation for the ceremony tomorrow*

dump[1] /dʌmp/ *v* **1** [T + *obj* + *adv|prep*] to drop or unload (something), esp. heavily or carelessly, in a rough pile: *Don't dump that sand in the middle of the path!* | *They dumped their bags on my floor and left!* | (fig.) *Some people I used to know turned up and dumped themselves on me for the weekend.* (=stayed for the weekend without being invited to do so) **2** [I;T] to get rid of (things which are not wanted, etc.) irresponsibly; ABANDON: *He dumped his old car at the side of the road.* | *No dumping here!* | (fig.) *He's just dumped his latest girlfriend.* | *That school is just a* **dumping ground** *for problem children.* **3** [T] *derog* to sell (goods) in a foreign country more cheaply than at home, esp. below the cost of production; this might happen when the products are not wanted by the country selling them, when they are below the standard considered safe or legal by the home country but thought acceptable in other parts of the world, e.g. medical supplies or other products: *The company denied dumping baby milk substitutes on Third World hospitals.* **4** [T] *tech* to move (information stored in a computer's memory) to another place of storage, such as a DISK

dump[2] *n* **1** also **tip** *BrE*— a place for dumping waste material: *the town rubbish dump* **2** (a place for) a stored supply of military materials: *an ammunition dump* **3** *derog sl* a dirty, untidy, or disorderly place: *This town's a real dump!* —see also DUMPS **4** the result of moving

information stored in a computer's memory to another place, such as a DISK: *I haven't analysed this dump yet to see what the problem was.*

dump·er /ˈdʌmpəʳ/ also **dumper truck** /ˈ·· ˌ·/, **dump truck** /ˈ· ·/ *AmE–* *n* a vehicle with a large movable container on the front, used for carrying and emptying heavy loads of soil, stones, etc.

dump·ling /ˈdʌmplɪŋ/ *n* **1** a lump of flour mixed with water, cooked by boiling in water and often served with meat or having meat inside it: *chicken and dumplings* **2** a sweet food made of pastry with fruit inside it: *apple dumplings*

dumps /dʌmps/ *n* **(down) in the dumps** *infml* sad; DEPRESSED

dump·ster /ˈdʌmpstəʳ/ *n tdmk* (*often cap.*) (in America) a large metal container for rubbish; SKIP³

dump·y /ˈdʌmpi/ *adj infml derog* (esp. of a person) short and fat: *a dumpy little woman* **–-iness** *n* [U]

dun /dʌn/ *n* **1** [U] a brownish-grey colour that lacks brightness **2** [C] a horse of this colour **–dun** *adj*

Dun & Brad·street /ˌdʌn ənd ˈbrædstriːt/ an American company that sets CREDIT RATINGS for national and international businesses, based on their records of paying their debts, delivering goods, etc.

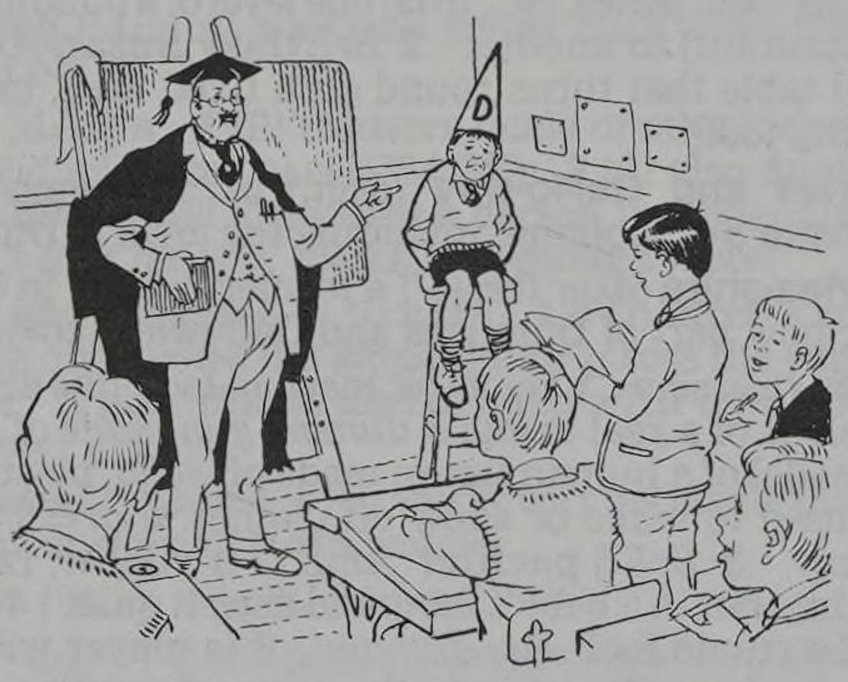
Dun·a·way /ˈdʌnəweɪ/, **Faye** /feɪ/ (1941–) an American actress whose films include *Bonnie and Clyde* and *Mommie Dearest*

Dun·bar·ton·shire /dʌnˈbɑːtnʃəʳ‖-ˈbɑːr-/ a former COUNTY in central Scotland, now part of Strathclyde REGION

Dun·can /ˈdʌŋkən/ a character in Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, the king of Scotland who was murdered by Macbeth

Duncan, Is·a·do·ra /ˌɪzəˈdɔːrə/ (1878–1927) an American dancer and teacher who had a great influence on modern dance

dunce



dunce /dʌns/ *n* a slow learner; stupid person: *the dunce of the class | I was a dunce at chemistry.*

dunce's cap /ˈ·· ·/ also **dunce cap** /ˈ· ·/, **dunce's hat** *n* a tall round pointed paper hat formerly placed on the heads of pupils at school if they were stupid or slow to learn. Hats like this are never used now, but they sometimes appear in CARTOONS, often with a large letter "D" on them.

Dun·dee /dʌnˈdiː/ a city in eastern Scotland with a university and a CATHEDRAL

Dundee cake /·ˈ· ˌ·/ *n* [C;U] a large British fruit cake decorated with ALMONDS on the top

dun·der·head /ˈdʌndəhed‖-ər-/ *n becoming rare* a stupid person

dune /djuːn‖duːn/ also **sand dune** *n* a sandhill, often long and low, piled up by the wind on the seashore or in a desert

dune bug·gy /ˈ· ˌ··/ *n* a BEACH BUGGY

Dun·e·din /dʌnˈiːdɪn/ a city on the SE coast of South Island, New Zealand

dung /dʌŋ/ *n* [U] solid waste material from the bowels of animals, esp. cows and horses; animal MANURE

dun·ga·rees /ˌdʌŋgəˈriːz/ *n* [P] **1** *BrE* ‖ **overalls** *AmE* **a** workmen's trousers with a BIB (2) and shoulder STRAPS made of usu. blue DENIM (=heavy cotton cloth) **b** similar trousers made of any material and worn as a fashion GARMENT –compare BOILER SUIT, OVERALLS **2** *AmE* a type of heavy JEANS usu. worn for working in–see PAIR (USAGE), and see picture at OVERALL **–dungaree** *adj* [A]: *dungaree pockets*

Dun·ge·ness /ˌdʌndʒəˈnes◂/ a part of Kent, England, which sticks out into the English Channel. There are two NUCLEAR power stations there.

dun·geon /ˈdʌndʒən/ *n* a dark underground prison, esp. beneath a castle

Dungeons and Drag·ons /ˌ·· · ˈ··/ *tdmk* a ROLE PLAYING game in which the players pretend to be a character who must achieve or prevent a particular situation, such as finding a magic ring: *My two sons have dozens of books on Dungeons and Dragons and play it with their friends.*

dunk /dʌŋk/ *v* [T (**in**)] *infml* **1** to dip (bread, cake, etc., which one is eating) into coffee, tea, etc.: *She always dunks her biscuits in her coffee.* **2** *AmE–* to dip (something or someone) into liquid: *She dunked her friend in the swimming pool.* **3** (in BASKETBALL) to throw (the ball) into the basket from above the basket **4 dunk for apples** *AmE*‖**dip for apples** *BrE*, **duck for apples** *ScotE* to play a game in which players whose eyes are covered must use their teeth to pick up apples floating in water. This game is esp. popular at HALLOWE'EN parties. **–dunk** *n*

Dun·kirk /ˌdʌnˈkɜːk◂‖ˈdʌnkɜːrk/ **1** a city and port in N France **2** the Second World War operation in which many small boats went from England to Dunkirk to bring back safely to England soldiers who had been fighting the advancing Germans: *the biggest military operation since Dunkirk*

Dunkirk spir·it /ˌ·· ˈ··/ *n* [(*the*)U] a refusal to give up in a difficult or impossible situation (from the attitude shown by those who went to Dunkirk in small boats to RESCUE soldiers fighting the Germans in the Second World War)

Dún Laogh·aire /duːn ˈleərə‖dʌn-/ a port in E Ireland whose former names are Dunleary and Kingstown

Dun·lop /ˈdʌnlɒp ‖ -lɑːp/ *tdmk* a British company which makes TYRES for cars and other vehicles

Dun·net Head /ˌdʌnɨt ˈhed/ a PROMONTORY in Scotland, the most northerly point on the Scottish mainland

Dun·sta·ble /ˈdʌnstəbəl/ a town in Bedfordshire, England, with motor and other industries

du·o /ˈdjuːəʊ‖ˈduːəʊ/ *n* **duos** **1** a DUET **2** [+*sing./pl. v*] *infml* a pair, esp. two singers or musicians performing together

du·o·dec·i·mal /ˌdjuːəˈdesɨməl‖ˌduː-/ *adj tech* concerning the number 12, esp. calculation by 12s, rather than by 10s as in the decimal system

du·o·de·num /ˌdjuːəˈdiːnəm‖ˌduː-/ *n* **-na** /nə/ *or* **-nums** *tech* the first part of the bowel below the stomach **–-nal** /ˌdjuːˈdiːnl◂‖ˌduː-/ *adj* : *a duodenal ulcer*

du·o·logue /ˈdjuːəlɒg‖ˈduːəlɔːg, -lɑːg/ *n fml* a DIALOGUE between two people

dupe¹ /djuːp‖duːp/ *n* a person who is tricked or deceived by someone else

dupe² *v* [T (**into**) *often pass.*] to trick or deceive: *The salesman duped the old lady into buying a faulty dishwasher.*

du·plex /ˈdjuːpleks‖ˈduː-/ *n, adj* [A] *AmE* **1** a SEMI-DETACHED house –see picture at HOUSE **2** (a flat) having rooms on two floors of a building: *a duplex apartment* –compare TRIPLEX²

du·pli·cate¹ /ˈdjuːplɨkɨt‖ˈduː-/ *n, adj* (something that is) exactly like another: *duplicate keys to the front door | If you've lost your key I can give you a duplicate. | This form should be filled out* **in duplicate.** (=two copies should be filled out)

du·pli·cate² /ˈdjuːplɨkeɪt‖ˈduː-/ *v* [T] **1** to copy exactly: *Can you duplicate this key for me?* **2** to copy written, printed, or drawn material on a special machine called a duplicator: *All the members received duplicated notices of the meeting.* Duplicating has been replaced by photocopying (PHOTOCOPY²) **3** to repeat or equal: *an extraordinary feat which would be impossible to duplicate* **–-cation** /ˌdjuːplɨˈkeɪʃən‖ˌduː-/ *n* [U]

du·pli·ca·tor /ˈdjuːplɨkeɪtəʳ‖ˈduː-/ *n* a machine that makes copies of written, printed, or drawn material. Duplicators have mostly been replaced by PHOTOCOPIERS.

du·plic·i·ty /djuːˈplɪsɨti‖duː-/ *n* [U] *fml* the quality of being dishonest and deceitful

Du Pont /djuː ˈpɒnt‖duː ˈpɑːnt/ a large US chemical company, named after the family that started it, which has developed NYLON, RAYON, CELLOPHANE, and other materials

Du Pré /duː ˈpreɪ, djuː-/, **Jac·que·line** /ˈdʒækəliːn/ (1945–87) an English CELLIST who made many recordings, esp. of music by Elgar. She married Daniel Barenboim in 1967, and they played many concerts together before MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS (a serious disease) caused her to give up playing and continue her work as a teacher.

dur·a·ble /ˈdjʊərəbəl‖ˈdʊ-/ *adj* able to last; long-lasting: *trousers of durable material* | *a durable, easy-to-clean surface* | *a durable peace between two nations* —see also CONSUMER DURABLES —**-bly** *adv* —**-bility** /ˌdjʊərəˈbɪlɨti‖ˌdʊ-/ *n* [U]

Dur·a·cell /ˈdjʊərəsel ‖ ˈdʊ-/ *n tdmk* a company which makes batteries (BATTERY (1)) which are generally considered to last longer than most other types of battery: *I always use Duracell batteries in my radio.*

durable goods /ˈ··· ˌ·/ *n* [P] *AmE for* CONSUMER DURABLES

Du·ran Du·ran /djʊˌræn djʊˈræn/ a British popular music group successful in the 1980s

du·ra·tion /djʊˈreɪʃən‖dʊ-/ *n* [U] *fml* the time during which something (esp. a state or feeling) exists, lasts, or continues: *an illness of short duration* | *He will be in hospital* **for the duration of** *the school year.* | *German citizens in Britain were interned* **for the duration.** (while the war lasted)

Dü·rer /ˈdjʊərəʳ/, **Al·brecht** /ˈælbrekt, -ext/ (1471–1528) a German artist known for his drawings and ENGRAVINGS, in particular his very detailed pictures of himself and other people

du·ress /djʊˈres‖dʊ-/ *n* [U] *fml* illegal or unfair threats; COERCION: *a promise made* **under duress**

dur·ex /ˈdjʊəreks‖ˈdʊ-/ *n tdmk* **1** [C] *BrE* (*often cap.*) a CONDOM: *a packet of durex on the bedside table* **2** [U] *AustrE* SELLOTAPE

Dur·ham /ˈdʌrəm‖ˈdɜːr-/ **1** a city in NE England with a university and a CATHEDRAL. The local government for the COUNTY of Durham is based there. **2** also **County Durham** a COUNTY in NE England

dur·ing /ˈdjʊərɪŋ‖ˈdʊ-/ *prep* **1** all through (a length of time): *We go swimming every day during the summer.* (compare *We went swimming every day* **for** *three months.*) | *They lived abroad during the war.* (=while the war was happening) | *a long speech, during which he made various promises to the voters* **2** at some moment in (a length of time): *He died during the night.*

▷ USAGE Compare **during** and **for.** When you are talking about the time within which something happens use **during:** *Call me sometime* **during** *the holidays.* When you are talking about how long something lasts use **for**: *I was on the 'phone* **for** *ten minutes.* | *I went to France* **for** *two weeks* **during** *the summer.*◁

Durk·heim /ˈdɜːkhaɪm‖ˈdɜːrk-/, **E·mile** /eˈmiːl/ (1858–1917) a French sociologist (SOCIOLOGY) who helped to establish modern sociology as a scientific subject

Dur·rell /ˈdʌrəl/, **Ger·ald** /ˈdʒerəld/ (1925–) an English writer of travel books and books about the natural world, who is also known for his work as the Director of Jersey Zoo

Durrell, Lawrence (1912–90) an English poet and writer of NOVELS, including the *Alexandria Quartet*, which was set in Egypt

Dür·ren·matt /ˈdjʊərənmæt‖ˈdʊrənmɑːt/, **Frie·drich** /ˈfriːdrɪk, -ix/ (1921–90) a Swiss writer of plays, including *The Visit* and *The Physicists*

durst /dɜːst‖dɜːrst/ *old use past tense of* DARE: *He durst not do it.*

dusk /dʌsk/ *n* [U] the time when daylight is becoming less bright; darker part of TWILIGHT, esp. at night: *The street lights go on at dusk.* —compare DAWN¹ (1)

dusk·y /ˈdʌski/ *adj* **1** darkish; shadowy: *dusky brown* | *the dusky light of the forest* **2** *old-fash lit or taboo derog* having dark skin —**-iness** *n* [U]

Düs·sel·dorf /ˈdʊsəldɔːf‖ˈduːsəldɔːrf/ a city in Germany on the rivers Rhine and Düssel

dust¹ /dʌst/ *n* **1** [U] dry powder made of extremely small grains of waste matter, esp. of the kind that settles on indoor surfaces: *There was a layer of dust on the books before I cleaned them.* | *atmospheric dust* **2** [U] finely powdered earth: *The car raised a cloud of dust as it went down the dirt road.* | *the heat and dust of India* | *The rain soon settled/laid the dust.* (=stopped it from rising, by making the ground wet) **3** [U] fine powder made of small pieces of the stated substance: *gold dust* | *coal dust* **4** [U] *lit* the earthly remains of bodies once alive: *the dust of our ancestors* **5** [S] an act of dusting: *I gave the living room a quick dust.* **6 kick up/raise a dust (about)** *infml* to argue and shout (about) **7 when the dust has settled** *infml* when the confusion is over **8 dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return** *quote from the Bible* people were made from dust (according to the Bible) and will become dust again when they die —see also **ashes to ashes, dust to dust** (ASH), DUSTY, **bite the dust** (BITE¹ (11))

dust² *v* **1** [I;T (OFF, DOWN)] to clean the dust from (esp. furniture); remove dust (from): *Don't forget to dust the shelves.* | *I dust (the room) every morning.* | *She stood up and dusted herself down.* **2** [T] **a** to cover with dust or fine powder: [+*obj*+**with**] *to dust the plants with insecticide* **b** to put (a fine powder) on a surface: [+*obj*+**over**] *to dust sugar over a cake* —see CLEAN (USAGE), SPREAD (USAGE)

dust sthg. ↔ **off** *phr v* [T] to prepare to use or practise again (something that has not been used for a long time): *I won't write a new lecture. I'll just dust off the one I gave last year.*

dust·bin /ˈdʌstbɪn/ *BrE* ‖ **ashcan, garbage can, trashcan** *AmE*– *n* a container with a lid, for holding household waste, such as empty cans and boxes, old newspapers, etc., until it can be taken away: *Wrap the vegetable peelings in newspaper and throw them in the dustbin.* —see picture at HOUSE

dustbin man /ˈ·· ˌ·/ *n* DUSTMAN

dust·bowl /ˈdʌstbəʊl/ *n* an area that suffers from DUST STORMS and long dry periods

Dust Bowl /ˈ· ·/ [*the*] an area in the south-central US, in such states as Oklahoma, which suffered from dust blowing from the fields in high winds during the 1930s. The dust storms made it difficult to grow anything and many farmers in that area became very poor. The problems of the Dust Bowl helped make the Great Depression worse.

dust·cart /ˈdʌstkɑːt‖-kɑːrt/ *BrE* ‖ **garbage truck** *AmE*– *n* a large vehicle which goes from house to house to collect the contents of dustbins

dust·er /ˈdʌstəʳ/ *n* **1** a cloth for removing dust from furniture **2** *AmE* a light coat worn to protect one's clothes from dust while cleaning the house **3** *AmE, infml for* DUST STORM

dust jack·et /ˈ· ˌ··/ also **dust cover, jacket** *n* a removable paper cover of a book, often having writing or pictures describing the book

dust·man /ˈdʌstmən/ also **bin man, dustbin man** *BrE* ‖ **garbage man, trash man, garbage collector, sanitation worker** *AmE*– *n* **-men** /mən/ someone employed to remove waste material from DUSTBINS. There is a well-known old British popular song called *My Old Man's a Dustman.*

dust·pan /ˈdʌstpæn/ *n* a flat container with a handle into which household dust and other waste materials can be brushed: *I've just broken a cup — have you got a dustpan and brush?*

dust·sheet /ˈdʌst-ʃiːt/ ‖ usu. **drop cloth** *AmE*– *n* a large sheet of cloth used for throwing over furniture, shop goods, etc., in order to keep the dust off: *She covered the furniture with dustsheets before she started to paint the room.*

dust storm /ˈ· ·/ *n* a violent weather condition with strong winds carrying large quantities of dust

dust-up /ˈdʌst-ʌp/ *n BrE sl* a quarrel or esp. a fight

dust·y /ˈdʌsti/ *adj* **1** dry and covered or filled with dust: *a dusty room* | *In the summer the town becomes very dusty.* **2** like dust; powdery **3** (of a colour) not bright; having a shade of grey: *dusty brown/pink* **4** lacking life or interest; dry: *a dusty treatise*

Dutch¹ /dʌtʃ/ *adj* **1** of the people, country, or language of the Netherlands (Holland): *a Dutch painter* | *She's Dutch.*

►CULTURAL NOTE Most people know the story of the little Dutch boy who saved his area from being flooded by putting his finger in a hole in the dike to stop the water coming through: *The government's policy is a bit like sticking your finger in the dike when the hole's already quite big.*◄

2 go Dutch (with someone) to share the cost, esp. of a meal. People use this expression particularly when a man and a woman go out together and the woman pays for herself instead of being paid for by the man: *Kate and John always go Dutch when they go out to restaurants.*

Dutch[2] *n* **1** [U] the language of the Netherlands **2** [*the*+P] the people of the Netherlands —see also DOUBLE-DUTCH

Dutch auc·tion /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [C;U] a public sale at which the price is gradually reduced until someone will pay it: *to sell fruit by Dutch auction*

Dutch barn /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* a farm building with a curved roof on a frame that has no walls

Dutch cap /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n* a CAP[1] (6)

Dutch cour·age /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* [U] *infml* the courage to do something that one gets from drinking alcohol

Dutch elm dis·ease /ˌ· ˈ· ·ˌ·/ *n* [U] a disease that attacks and kills ELM trees. An EPIDEMIC of this in the 1970s killed elm trees in many countries including Britain and the US.

Dutch·man /ˈdʌtʃmən/ *n* **-men** /mən/ **1** a man from the Netherlands **2** a piece of wood, metal, etc. used to repair bad work after something has been made **3 I'm a Dutchman** (a phrase used to show disbelief): *"I'm emigrating to Australia soon." "Sure, and I'm a Dutchman."* (=I don't believe you)

Dutch ov·en /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* **1** an upright metal shield that throws the heat forward onto things baked in front of a fire **2** a brick OVEN whose walls are heated before baking things **3** a heavy iron pot with a tight-fitting lid used for cooking

Dutch Re·formed Church /ˌ· ·ˌ· ˈ·/ [*the*] the religion which most of the South African people who speak Afrikaans belong to. It was taken to South Africa by the Dutch settlers in the 17th century.

Dutch treat /ˌ· ˈ·/ *n infml* an occasion at which everyone pays their own bill —see also **go Dutch** (DUTCH[1])

Dutch un·cle /ˌ· ˈ··/ *n* **talk (to someone) like a Dutch uncle** to speak in an angry complaining way, showing strong disapproval, esp. to someone who has done something wrong

du·ti·a·ble /ˈdjuːtiəbəl‖ˈduː-/ *adj* (of goods) on which one must pay DUTY (2)

du·ti·ful /ˈdjuːtɪfəl‖ˈduː-/ also **du·te·ous** /-tiəs/*fml*— *adj* (of people and behaviour) showing proper respect and obedience —~**ly** *adv* —~**ness** *n* [U]

du·ty /ˈdjuːti‖ˈduːti/ *n* [C;U] **1** something that one does either because it is part of one's job or because it is morally or legally right that one should do it: *His duties include taking letters to the post and making coffee.* | *to do one's duty as a soldier* | *I feel it's my duty to help them.* | *It's the duty of a lawyer to act in the best interests of his clients.* | *I'm* **(in) duty bound** (=forced by my conscience) *to visit my old aunt.* | *He writes to his ex-employer once a year but he's only* **acting out of duty.** (=not because he wants to) **2** also **duties** *pl.*— any of various types of tax: *Customs duties are paid on goods entering the country, death duties on property when the owner dies, and stamp duty when one sells a house.* **3 do duty for** (of things) to (be able to) be used instead of: *This log will do duty for a table.* **4 on/off duty** (esp. of soldiers, nurses, etc.) at/not at work: *When I'm off duty I play tennis.* | *I'm on* **night duty** (=working at night) *this week.* —see also HEAVY-DUTY; see TAX (USAGE)

duty-free /ˌ·· ˈ·◂/ *adj, adv* (of goods) allowed to come into the country without tax: *You can bring in one bottle duty-free.* | *the duty-free shop at the airport* (=which sells duty-free goods) —**duty-free** *n* : *Don't forget to buy some duty-frees.*

Du·val·i·er /duːˈvælieɪ, djuː-‖ˌduːvɑːlˈjeɪ/, **Fran·çois** /ˈfrɒnswɑː‖frɑːnˈswɑː/ (1907–71) the president of Haiti 1957–71. Known as **Papa Doc**, he ruled as a DICTATOR, with the **Tontons Macoutes** as a private force to get rid of opponents.

Duvalier, Jean-Claude /ʒɒn kləʊd‖ʒɑːn-/ (1951–) the president of Haiti 1971–86. Known as **Baby Doc**, he came to rule after the death of his father François, and was the youngest president in the world at the age of 19.

du·vet /ˈduːveɪ, ˈdjuː-‖duːˈveɪ/ also **continental quilt** *BrE*— *n* a large bag filled with feathers or man-made material, which is placed inside a removable washable cover, and is used on a bed instead of a sheet and BLANKETS to keep one warm

DVLC /ˌdiː viː el ˈsiː/ [*the*] Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre; the British government department responsible for collecting road tax and sending out driving LICENCES to people when they pass their **driving test**

Dvo·řák /ˈdvɔːʒæk, ˈvɔː-‖ˈdvɔːrʒɑːk/, **An·to·nin** /ˈæntəʊniːn/ (1841–1904) a Czech COMPOSER known for his symphonies (SYMPHONY), such as the *New World Symphony*, songs, and music for VIOLIN, CELLO, and piano

dwarf[1] /dwɔːf‖dwɔːrf/ *n* **dwarfs** *or* **dwarves** /dwɔːvz ‖ dwɔːrvz/ **1** a person, animal, or plant of much less than the usual size: *Their second son is a dwarf.* | *a dwarf apple tree* **2** a small imaginary manlike creature

►CULTURAL NOTE Dwarfs in European MYTHOLOGY are small, wise creatures who live in secret places, often under the ground, and have big heads and long beards. They appear in many stories, where they may be kind and helpful to humans or may be feared. People in European countries such as Germany and Norway believed in dwarfs and GIANTS even after Christianity was introduced, and many beliefs about them still exist, which have spread to Britain with fairy stories such as those told by the Brothers Grimm: *the story of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* —see also SEVEN DWARFS, WHITE DWARF◄

dwarf[2] *v* [T] **1** to make (someone or something) appear small by comparison: *The old cathedral is dwarfed by the skyscrapers that surround it.* **2** to prevent the proper growth of: *Bonsai is the art of dwarfing trees*

dwell /dwel/ *v* **dwelt** /dwelt/ *or* **dwelled** [I+*adv*/*prep*] **1** *lit or old use* to live (in a place): *to dwell in a forest*/*on an island* —see LIVE (USAGE) **2 -dweller** /dwelə[r]/ a person or animal that lives in the stated place: *city-dwellers* | *cave-dwellers*

dwell on/upon sthg. *phr v* [T] to think or speak a lot about, esp. to an unhealthy or annoying degree: *Stop dwelling on your problems and do something about them!* | *The book dwells too much on the economic aspects of the problem.*

dwell·ing /ˈdwelɪŋ/ *n fml or humor* a house, flat, etc., where people live: *Welcome to my humble dwelling!*

dwelling house /ˈ·· ·/ *n esp. law* a house which is lived in rather than being used as a shop, office, etc.

DWI /ˌdiː dʌbəljuː ˈaɪ/ *n* [U] *AmE* driving while intoxicated (=drunk on alcohol); used mainly by police

dwin·dle /ˈdwɪndl/ *v* [I (AWAY)] to become steadily fewer or smaller: *The number of people who live on the island is rapidly dwindling.* | *the island's dwindling population* | *Membership has dwindled to only 25.* | *Her hopes*/*money gradually dwindled away.*

Dyck, Sir Anthony Van see VAN DYCK

dye[1] /daɪ/ *n* [C;U] a vegetable or chemical substance, usu. in liquid form, used to change the colour of things esp. by dipping —compare PAINT[1] (2)

dye[2] *v* **dyes, dyed, dyeing** [T] to give a (different) colour to (something) by means of dye: *She dyes her hair.* [+*obj*+*adj*] *She dyed the dress*/*shoes green.* | (fig.) *Sunset dyed the sky red.* —~**r** *n*

dyed-in-the-wool /ˌ· · · ˈ·◂/ *adj often derog* impossible to change from the stated quality; UNCOMPROMISING: *Charles is a dyed-in-the-wool Republican.*

Dyf·ed /ˈdʌvɪd/ a COUNTY in SW Wales

dy·ing /ˈdaɪ-ɪŋ/ *present participle of* DIE[1]

dyke /daɪk/ *n* **1** a DIKE **2** *sl* a LESBIAN; the word used to be only *derog*, but some Lesbians themselves now use it

Dyl·an /ˈdɪlən/, **Bob** (1941–) an American singer and

Bob Dylan



writer of songs who was a great influence on popular music in the 1960s. His early songs were often protest songs, on the subjects of war and the CIVIL RIGHTS movement in America, and many young people were influenced by the words of his songs, e.g. *Blowin' In The Wind* and *The Times They Are A-Changin'*.

dy·nam·ic /daɪˈnæmɪk/ *adj* **1** *often apprec* (esp. of people) full of activity, new ideas, the will to succeed, etc.; forceful: *a dynamic young businessman | a dynamic period in history | concert pianists Katia and Marielle Labeque, known as the* **dynamic duo**,... —compare STATIC[1] (1) **2** *tech* of force or power that causes movement **3** *tech* (in grammar) being a verb that describes an action or event rather than a state, e.g. *watch* in *She is watching television* or *play* in *They are playing tennis* —compare STATIVE —~**ally** /kli/ *adv*

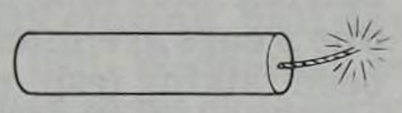
dy·nam·ics[1] /daɪˈnæmɪks/ *n* [U] the science that deals with objects or matter in movement —compare KINETICS, STATICS

dynamics[2] *n* [P] (in music) changes of loudness

dy·na·mis·m /ˈdaɪnəmɪzəm/ *n* [U] (in a person) the quality of being dynamic

dy·na·mite[1] /ˈdaɪnəmaɪt/ *n* [U] **1** a powerful explosive used esp. in MINING **2** *infml* something or someone that will cause great shock, surprise, admiration, etc.: *That news story|That new singer is really dynamite!*

dynamite



dynamite[2] *v* [T] to blow up with dynamite

dy·na·mo /ˈdaɪnəməʊ/ *n* **-mos** **1** a machine which turns some other kind of power into electricity: *bicycle lights powered by a dynamo* —compare GENERATOR, MAGNETO **2** *infml* an extremely energetic person

dyn·a·sty /ˈdɪnəsti‖ˈdaɪ-/ *n* a line of kings or other rulers, following one another in time and all belonging to the same family: *a dynasty of Welsh kings | the Ming dynasty in China between 1368 and 1644* —**-stic** /dɪˈnæstɪk‖daɪ-/ *adj*: *dynastic rule*

Dynasty a television SOAP OPERA made in America and also shown in Britain, known mainly for its stars, e.g. Joan Collins, and the expensive clothes worn in the programmes

d'you /djʊ, dʒə/ *short for:* (*infml*) do you: *D'you see what I mean?*

dys·en·te·ry /ˈdɪsəntəri‖-teri/ *n* [U] a painful disease of the bowels that causes them to be emptied more often than usual and to produce blood and MUCUS

dys·lex·i·a /dɪsˈleksiə/ also **word blindness**— *n* [U] *tech* a problem in reading caused by difficulty in seeing the difference between letter shapes —**-ic** *adj*

dys·pep·si·a /dɪsˈpepsiə, -ˈpepʃə/ *n* [U] difficulty in the breaking down of food in the body after it has been eaten; INDIGESTION

dys·pep·tic /dɪsˈpeptɪk/ *adj* **1** suffering from, or caused by, dyspepsia **2** bad-tempered